

















SKETCHES,  
*HISTORICAL AND TOPOGRAPHICAL,*  
OF  
THE FLORIDAS;  
MORE PARTICULARLY OF  
EAST FLORIDA.

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BY JAMES GRANT FORBES.

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*Southern District of New-York, ss.*

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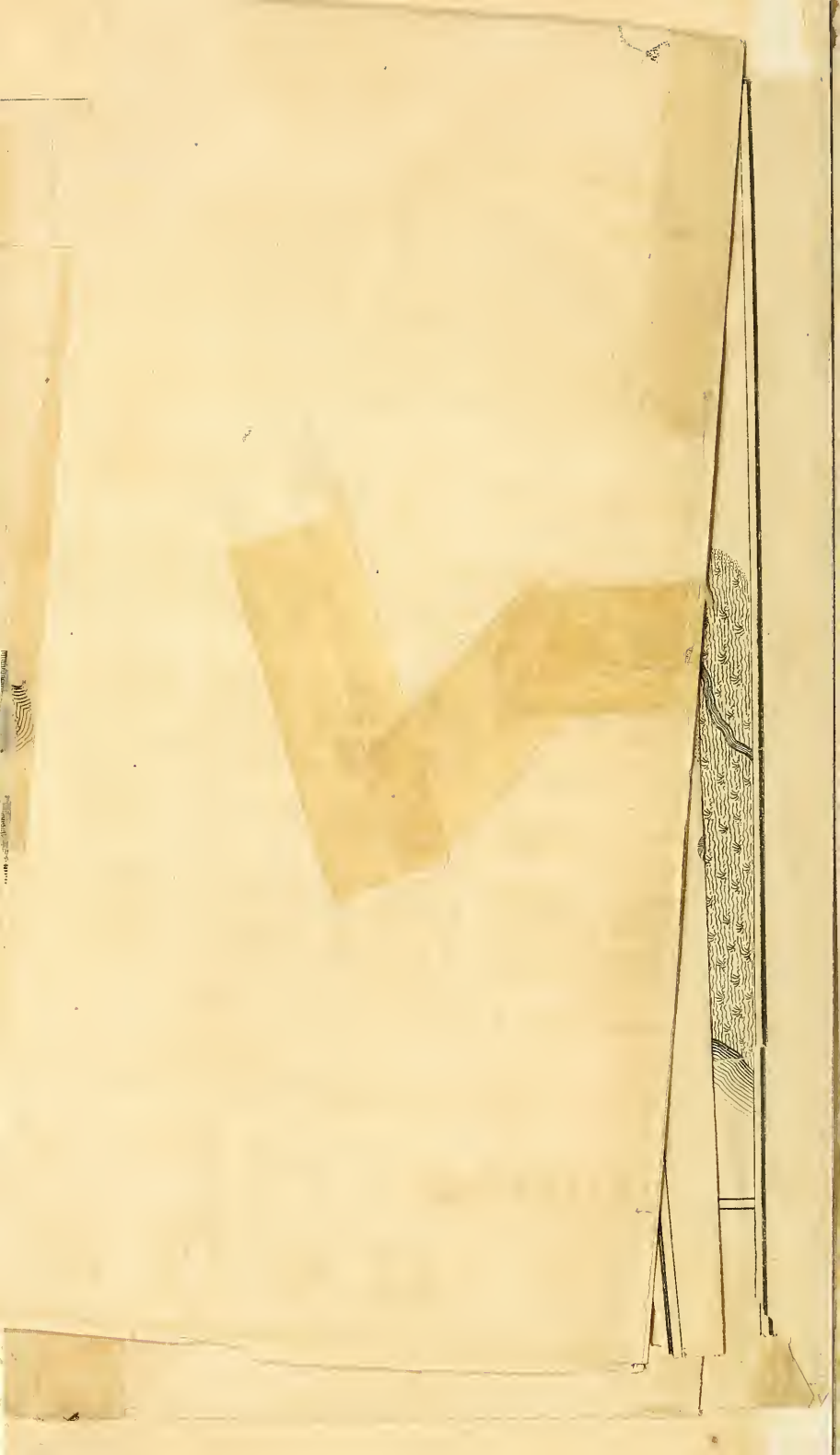
“Sketches, Historical and Topographical, of the Floridas ; more particularly of East Florida. By James Grant Forbes.”

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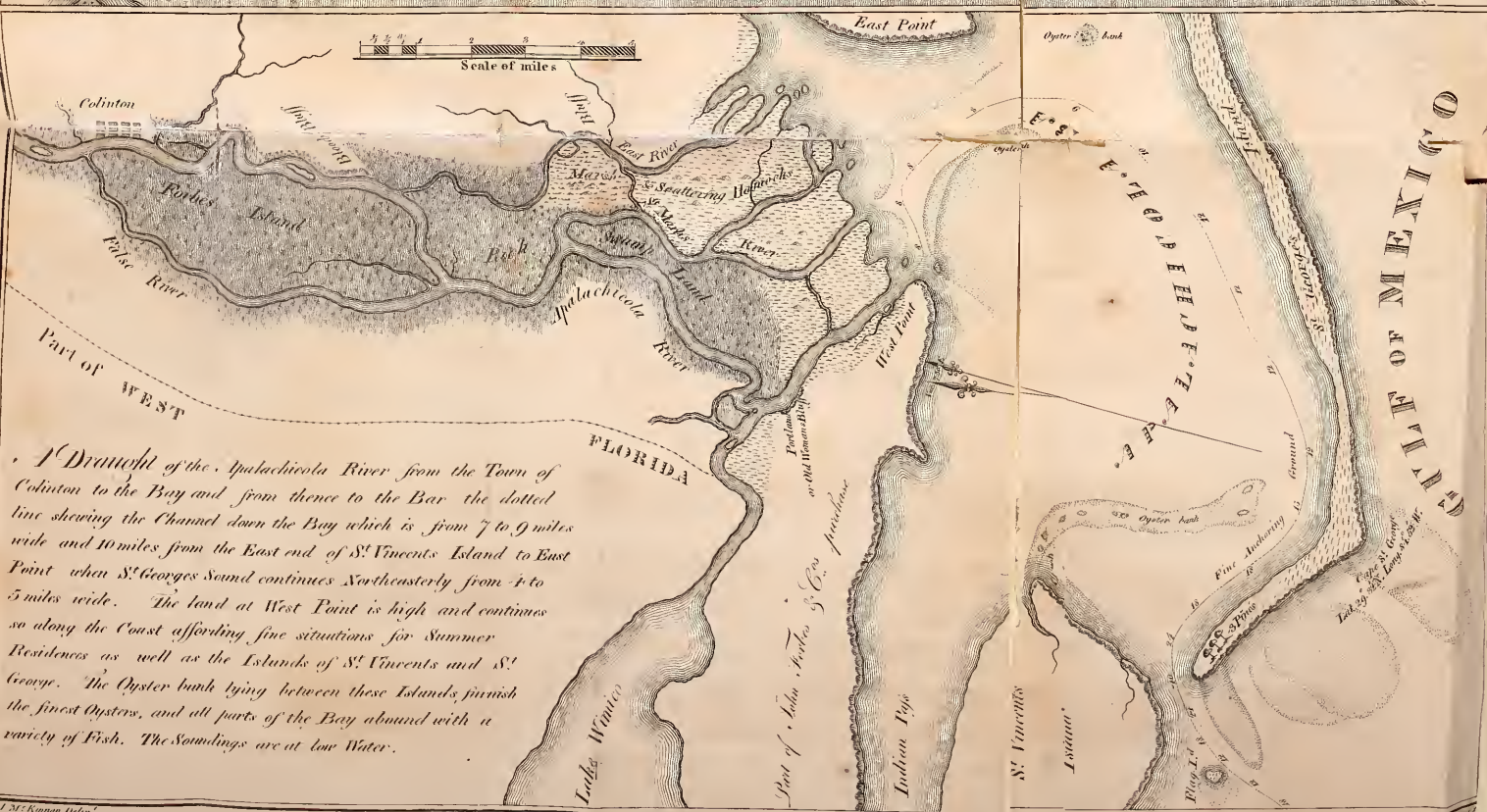
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*The town of Colinton is laid off at a place called Prospect Bluff, or Fort Gadsden, on the Apalachicola River, and eighteen miles from the Bay of the same name, on a fine level plain of pine land, 15 feet above the river at low water, and within the purchase made by J. Forbes & Co. from the Indians. The town lots are 60 feet wide and 120 feet deep. The water lots are 75 feet wide, and from 160 to 300 feet deep. The swamp land under the bluff is from 70 to 90 feet wide, and is sufficiently firm for excellent foundations for wharves at a small expense. The lots A, B, C, D, E, F, G, each 120 feet by 300 feet, are reserved for public uses. The streets are at right angles, and of the width laid down in the Plan. The Apalachicola and Chattahoutchie Rivers are navigable at all times for large Steam Boats 220 miles in a direct line to the Falls above Fort Mitchel, and run through a fine fertile country, the produce of which must descend these Rivers by Colinton to the Ocean.*

# PLAN

of the  
TOWN of COLINTON  
IN EAST FLORIDA.

Scale of Feet



A Dredge of the Apalachicola River from the Town of Colinton to the Bay and from thence to the Bar the dotted line shewing the Channel down the Bay which is from 7 to 9 miles wide and 10 miles from the East end of St. Vincent's Island to East Point when St. Georges Sound continues Northeastly from 4 to 5 miles wide. The land at West Point is high and continues so along the Coast affording fine situations for Summer Residences as well as the Islands of St. Vincent's and St. George. The Oyster bank lying between these Islands furnish the finest Oysters, and all parts of the Bay abound with a variety of Fish. The Soundings are at low Water.







## P R E F A C E.



SINCE Florida has become an integral part of the Union, and our republic has been strengthened by this important acquisition, curiosity has been considerably excited on the subject of its situation, its soil, climate, and history. A desire to emigrate, and numerous other motives, combine to heighten this excitement; and what hitherto has been but little known and regarded, while a neglected Province of Spain, bids fair to rise to eminence and fame, as a component part of the American family.

The imperfect and contradictory accounts of the Floridas, made it the duty of those possessing any information on the subject, to afford their fellow citizens the most correct and authenticated information. Under this impression, I have ventured to publish the following sketches, which have grown out of personal observation, and been strengthened by such facts as the nature of my situation, and considerable research, have placed within my reach.

I offer them to the consideration of my fellow citizens with all possible deference, and as my motives are purely patriotic, I indulge the hope, that my imperfec-

tions, as a writer, may be balanced by the utility of the work.

In my researches connected with the natural and political history of the Provinces and their inhabitants, I have adopted many interesting facts of other writers. Bartram, Romans, and Pursh, have been of great service to me; yet if their publications were not almost obsolete, and their subject less analogous to the present times, my labours might have been dispensed with.

The following description of the tract of land called "*Forbes' Purchase*," of which a Map is presented to our readers, is from a source entitled to the fullest credit, and is added in consequence of the emigration which is daily taking place.

"That tract of land known by the name of Forbes' Purchase, contains about twelve hundred thousand acres, and was purchased many years since by John Forbes & Co. from the Aborigines, with the approbation of the Spanish government, permission having been first obtained from the government to treat for the same; and every step toward the accomplishment and ratification of the treaty, was taken in the presence of a regularly appointed Spanish agent, as well as an interpreter in the pay of the government.

This purchase is on record in the proper office of Florida, as well as in that of the surveyor general, Don Victor Pintado; and that no doubt of, or objection to, its title should ever be made, should the land at any time be ceded either to the American or British government, several sales of small tracts were early made and recorded in the proper public offices.



“ This tract is said to possess much good land ; and those who had occasion to examine it, when it was surveyed, report it as a body of land much superior to any thing south of New-York, situated so near the sea board.

In a tract embracing upwards of a million of acres, there must necessarily be a good deal of pine barren ; but it is thought that no tract in the southern states, of equal extent, can be found possessing so many advantages in point of soil, water, and situation. It contains the richest cane bottoms, and upland cane hammocks, within fifteen miles of the sea, proper for the cultivation of sugar, the greatest profusion of oak timber of every description, and saw-mill seats, surrounded with forests that have never been touched. Streams of pure water run through the tract in every direction. It contains, also, beds of lime stone, and abundance of game ; and upon the coast may be procured the greatest abundance of oysters, and fish of every kind.

“ Sugar can be produced here of the very best quality ; and little doubt is entertained, that coffee can also be raised in large quantities. On the coast are some of the finest sea islands for the cultivation of cotton.

“ The Apalachicola river, which is the western boundary of this tract, is navigable for sloops of considerable burthen to its junction with Flint River, a distance of about 200 miles, and for boats of considerable size for 450 miles from its mouth ; thus supplying any settlements which may be made upon it, with a rich and valuable back country to an immense extent.

“ Should a communication hereafter be made by a canal between St. Johns River and Apalachie Bay, which

is thought very practicable ; this country must be vastly important, and the dangerous navigation round Florida Cape not only be avoided, but the country bordering on the Gulf of Mexico, be reduced to a comparatively trifling distance from the northern states.

“ The proprietors of this tract are sparing no pains nor expense to bring it into a proper state for the residence and accommodation of settlers ; and a regular surveyor is constantly employed in surveying the lands and preparing them for sale.

“ Sales to a considerable extent have been made, and many families have already gone, and many more are preparing to go there from the southern states.

“ The scite of the town of Colinton, is at Prospect Bluff, on the Apalachicola, and embraces Fort Gadsden. Letters from a respectable source, dated in February, 1821, say, ‘ We were there last summer for seven weeks, and were delighted with the soil, climate, and situation, and intend to take up our residence there.’ At this place will reside, also, an agent, perhaps one of the proprietors, for the purpose of disposing of the property to settlers, and to give such information as may be required.”

# SKETCHES

OF

## THE FLORIDAS.

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THE first difficulty that presents itself, in the early stage of these Sketches, is to fix upon a proper period at which to commence the history of these provinces. I shall, therefore, carry this Narrative as far back as 1492, the year in which the new world was discovered by the enterprising Columbus. This event occurred on Easter day, whence the country was called *Pasqua Florida*.

The landing of Columbus on the American continent may be clearly traced, on his third voyage, to Florida, as may also that of his speedy successor, Americus Vesputius, in 1497 and 1498. To these adventurers must be added Sebastian Cabot, the son of Giovanni Gabota, or John Cabot, a native of Venice, who was commissioned by Henry the Seventh of England, one year previous to the discovery by Columbus, though he did not sail till some time after. There is considerable difference of opinion respecting the date when John Cabot, or his son Sebastian, performed the voyage; although it is confidently stated that Sebastian sailed from Bristol in

May, 1498, with an object similar to that of Columbus, the discovery of a north-west passage to the East Indies ; but it appears that none of them did more than make a landing of observation on the coast.

After having proceeded as far north as the river Santa Martheo, since called St. Johns, Cabot returned to England, for want of provisions.

The first land discovered in these seas was by Columbus, in 1492, when he made St. Salvador, or Cat Island, one of the Bahamas. Of this circumstance these islanders are not a little proud ; they have, accordingly, retained the name given to it by Columbus, as the place of his *salvation*, after a long voyage. From this place his people, on his return from Europe, ventured with him to Florida, being impressed, as were the aborigines of the island, with a belief, that the continent possessed waters calculated to invigorate youth, and to prolong old age. Policy required that this idea should be inculcated ; for the sterility of the Bahamas was naturally calculated to dampen enterprise ; and something was necessary to incite to farther exploremments.

Peter Martyr, highly distinguished for his commentaries on the Bible, and other writings, was a cotemporary of Cabot's, but not more successful.

Ponce de Leon, a Spanish officer, inspired with similar notions, went from St. Domingo, in April, 1512, to Florida, and, like his predecessors, discovered the error into which his infatuation had led him. He took possession of it in the name of the king of Spain.

The flattering reports of these European travellers excited

a disposition in their sovereigns for transatlantic conquests. Thence arose claims, first to discovery, and afterwards to right of possession, until these points were finally settled, by treaty among themselves, to the entire exclusion of the aborigines, whose voice was stifled in the conflicts between the European powers. Their rights have been understood and respected only by the government of the United States, always distinguished for its principles of liberal and enlightened policy toward this unfortunate race!

In 1520, Luke Vasques sailed from St. Domingo for the Florida coast ; but his voyages afford nothing remarkable.

De Verrazini, a Florentine, was sent, in 1523, by Francis the First of France ; and in 1524, De Geray and De Allegon went from Spain ; neither of whom, however, made any progress in discovery or settlement, having only coasted.

Paamphile de Narvaes obtained a grant from Charles the Fifth of all the lands from Cape Florida to the river Palmos, in the Gulf of Mexico. He set sail in April, 1528, with a considerable force, (said to be 900 men,) and arrived at Apalache ; but did not meet with more success than those that preceded him, being destructively opposed by the Indians. He died on the coast, near the river Palmos, by shipwreck; only ten men returned to Spain to relate the sad catastrophe.

In 1539, Ferdinand de Soto, governor of Cuba, explored the Floridas with from 8 to 900 men, in search of gold ; and became so celebrated for his adventures, and the discovery of the river Mississippi, in 1541, as to obtain from the king the title of Marquis of Florida. But such were the barbarities committed under this royal chief, that not only his life



fell a sacrifice to his temerity, but his countrymen were held in such abhorrence as not to be allowed a resting place in the country. He was put to death, in 1542 or 1543, by the Arkansa Indians, after traversing from Tampa Bay, through Apalache, Pensacola, and the Chickasaw country, to the Mississippi.

Prior to this event, (in the year 1534,) the Protestants of France sought an asylum in the Floridas, to escape the persecutions which grew out of the contests between the Catholics and Reformers : and in 1562, James Ribaud was also sent there by Admiral de Coligny. But the hand of persecution followed them, and he returned, leaving Captain Laudonier, with a small garrison, at Fort St. Matheo.

In 1564, Don Pedro Menendez, was ordered by Philip the Second, with a considerable force, consisting of ten ships of the line and 10,000 men, to dislodge them. In doing which, the greatest barbarities were committed upon the French and Indians : hanging them without discrimination, and posting on the trees from which these unfortunates were suspended, this inscription, "*Not as Frenchmen, but as heretics.*" For this act of *heroism*, he was remunerated by a grant of all Florida. But these outrages were soon after met in a retaliatory manner by the French, headed by Dominique de Gourgue, who, joined by the Indians, stormed Fort St. Matheo, and had his opponents hung, not "*a la lanterne,*" but, more conveniently, on the same trees that had sustained the dead bodies of his countrymen, bearing a like sanguinary placard, "*Not as Spaniards, but as murderers.*" Charles the Ninth received the petition of 900 widows on this melancholy occasion.



In 1565, the Spaniards, having resolved upon the occupation of the Floridas, persevered, became quiet possessors, and established the town and fort of St. Augustine, which they held until 1586, when Sir Francis Drake, in defiance of King Philip's invincible fleet, and his order prohibiting foreigners from entering, on pain of death, the Gulf of Mexico, laid siege to the fort, which he pillaged, and returned to Europe to save his own country, menaced by that same fleet, which had proceeded as far as the Thames, and was said to consist of 425 sail.

Captains Barlaw and Armada, however, in 1584, under an authority from Sir Walter Raleigh, took possession, in right of the Queen of England, of the rivers and lands adjacent to the northern coast of Florida.

In 1611, the prelate St. Francisco Marroz Custodio, from the Convent of St. Francisco of the Havanna, together with those at St. Helena, Fr. Miguel de Annon, and Fr. Pedro de Chocas, fell martyrs by the hands of the savages.

In 1663, the British, flushed with the intrepidity and courage of Sir Francis, laid claim to Florida, considering it not only as part of the Carolinas, but as a right acquired by Henry the Seventh from the discovery of the country by Sebastian Cabot, which is more fully illustrated in a memorial from Dr. Daniel Cox to King William the Third.

In 1665, Captain Davis, in the same spirit of buccaneering, plundered the town of St. Augustine.

West Florida, or Louisiana, is said to have been discovered in 1663 by the French; but as in that year France declared war against Spain, it is more than probable that the discovery of it was not made until 1679, when the King of Spain mar-

ried the daughter of King Philip of France, a more auspicious period for the encouragement of similar voyages.

M. De la Salle, in 1682, took formal possession of West Florida, and went as far as Illinois. He was murdered, in 1687, by his own people, after encountering the most unparalleled hardships for several years.

The French, more conciliatory toward the aborigines, made considerable progress in the western parts of the Floridas, and settled in Pensacola in 1696, without any other obstacle than the warfare incidental to incursions. They were, however, frequently discouraged; and would have abandoned their pursuits, had it not been, as Raynal states, for the sassafras tree, the fragrance and medicinal virtues of which stimulated them to more persevering exertions.

Monsieur d'Iberville, a distinguished French explorer, was sent to the Mississippi in 1702, and died off the Havanna.

In the same year, the governor of Carolina, Colonel More, with a force consisting of 500 regular troops, and 700 Indians, made an unsuccessful attack on St. Augustine, leaving, after a campaign of three months, his shipping and stores to the besieged.

The Carolinians, in 1704, possessed themselves of Fort St. Marks, 240 miles from the capital of East Florida; and in the year following, Apalachy fort was destroyed by the Indians.

In 1712, M. de Crozart obtained from the French government the exclusive commercial privileges of Louisiana and West Florida; at this time, there were only about thirty European families in the whole of that country.

John Law, a Scotchman, in 1717, took an active part in

creating an English interest in West Florida, and gained the ascendancy, which would have been more complete, if his speculations had not been formed on a paper system, too common to English financiers.

In January, 1732, the rage for speculation in the Mississippi was prevalent in France.

General Oglethorpe arrived in Georgia in 1719, (an epoch worthy the remembrance of every American, for the birth of the illustrious Washington,) and settled in Savannah, the most favourable high land he met with; notwithstanding which, the ravages of the climate reduced his forces very considerably. This circumstance, together with an eye to conquest, induced him to proceed, in 1740, against Florida. The jealousy of the Spaniards prepared a vigorous resistance for him, which he met at the gates of St. Augustine, from whence he was compelled to retire. The General had only 400 regulars of his own regiment, and 300 Indians, accompanied by 200 seamen, under Captain Warren, of the Squirrel, of 50 guns. Two reasons are assigned for the failure of this expedition: one, that the Spaniards were too strong, having 1,000 men; and the other, that the Carolina volunteers, who had come to assist, marched off without either asking or receiving leave. Others attributed his want of success to the weather, and to his having established his battery on Anastasia Island, at too great a distance to give effect to his artillery.

The question of boundary had previously been the subject of negociation. General Oglethorpe wished to restrain the limits of the Spaniards to the St. Johns, in a northerly direction; while the Governor of Florida, with an occult policy

peculiar to his government, was not only endeavouring to stir up the Indians in his favour, but had sent emissaries to Carolina, with the diabolical project of creating an insurrection among the blacks, whose number had increased to upwards of 40,000, and who killed twenty-three white people at his instigation. He likewise offered inducements to the white malecontents to join his standard, with the promise of the same pay as that of the Spanish troops. No doubt can be entertained, that this system of policy originated in Europe, where the Courts of England and Spain were alike preparing to contend for the Floridas.

The latter government remonstrated most earnestly, through their ambassador, Don Thomas Geraldino, in 1737, against the proceedings of General Oglethorpe, whose military talents were feared; and availing itself of the discontents among the Georgians, on account of the extraordinary privileges granted to the Trustees, of the non-importation of negroes, excited them by all means to revolt; but the British government, more alert, declared war against Spain, in October, 1739.

General Oglethorpe, who was the Washington of Georgia, although the commissioner of George the Second, had taken steps to secure not only the affections of the people, but the friendship of the Indians, with whom he made a treaty, in August, 1739, by which it was declared, that all the lands between Savannah and St. Johns Rivers, with the adjacent islands, and from the latter river to Apalache Bay, should belong to the Creek Nation, to be held by it as tenants in common.

The activity and talents of General Oglethorpe were not to

be surpassed, and were naturally calculated to strike terror in his enemy, who contemplated an offensive war. To meet this, he constructed a chain of forts from Frederica to St. Johns inclusively. Those on Cumberland, and Fort George at the mouth of St. Johns, are considered effective at this day.

Strong reinforcements arrived at St. Augustine from the Havana, in 1742, under De Rodondo and Monteano, for the purpose of invading Georgia; this they did with a fleet of 36 sail and 5,000 men, including 400 Florida Indians, most of whom landed at Amelia. In proceeding to Frederica, they were opposed by the undaunted Oglethorpe, who, with about 450 regulars and 200 Indians and militia, resolved to make a vigorous defence. He disputed every inch of ground, and obliged them, not so much by hard fighting, as by the *ruses de guerre* he played upon them, to retreat to the Havana.

Previous to this, the grand divisions of North America were known as Florida and Canada, names intended by the English and French to designate their respective possessions on the whole Continent.

Few events or incidents occurred in the Floridas, necessary to be given in these sketches, previous to the year 1763, when the contentions for the sovereignty of North America, between England, Spain, and France, were in some degree settled by the treaty of peace concluded by these powers, dated the 3d of November, 1762, and ratified the 10th of February, 1763. By this treaty, the provinces of East and West Florida were ceded to Great Britain by Spain, in exchange



for Cuba. The contracted policy, and the cruelty of the latter government, prevented any useful or permanent settlement being effected under their auspices. (*See Appendix.*)

The first notice I shall take of this change in the political situation of these provinces, is the temporary command of Major Ogilvie, who, by his impolitic conduct, drove all the Spanish inhabitants to the Havana. In consequence of this, Governor Grant issued a proclamation, inviting settlers, dated at St. Augustine, the 7th of October, 1763. (*See Appendix.*) In this proclamation, he mentions the salubrity of the climate, as well as the resources expected to be derived from the province in those days. What these resources were, will be found in the subsequent part of this work.

Governor Grant was high in command at the capture of the Havana by the British in 1762; and was no doubt promoted to this government, as a mark of approbation for his services on that occasion, and for those in the war with the Indians.

His administration, in a country hitherto the seat of war between the aborigines and the several European powers respectively, was not entered upon without difficulties, which required system, firmness, and dignified policy, to surmount. His experience and deliberate courage as a soldier, had been remarked in several engagements with the Indians, when he was left in command of the Carolinas, in 1759, by Col. Montgomery, (Lord Eglintoun.) He was, like many of his cotemporaries, mistaken in his predictions as to the issue of the American contest, and was much ridiculed for joining in the assertion made in parliament, that 5,000 British troops could march unmolested from one end of the Continent to the



other. It may be said of him, that during his command, which he held ten years, he was faithful to his sovereign, and just and conciliatory to the people ; and possessed the *savoir vivre* to such a degree, that upon hearing of any coolness or dissension between those about him, they were brought together at his table, (always well provided,) and reconciled before they were allowed to leave it.

He was to Florida what Oglethorpe had been to Georgia— indefatigable in his exertions to promote the welfare of the province. Like other men, he had his foibles : among these has been mentioned his love of money ; with this, however, he was less chargeable than most other colonizing Governors.

The proclamation of Governor Grant, together with the policy of the British government at home, brought some respectable planters from Carolina, among whom was Major Moultrie, afterwards Lieutenant Governor of the province, and William Drayton, Esq. the Chief Justice. At the same time, several noblemen in England, among whom were Lords Hawke, Egmont, Grenville, and Hillsborough, became the grantees of large tracts of land ; and being desirous of improving them, sent out agents with suitable means. None of these effected so much toward the population and settlement of the country as Sir William Duncan, Doctor Turnbull, Denys Rolle, and Richard Oswald, Esqrs. The two former, in company, having, at the vast expense of 166,000 dollars, and much trouble, brought from Smyrna, under indentures, 1,500 Greeks, Italians, and Minorcans, who formed a settlement sixty miles south of St. Augustine, and called it New Smyrna, where the cultivation of indigo, and other products, in-

cluding the sugar cane, was carried on with success ; particularly the former.

This site, which is truly admirable, is surrounded by some of the most valuable lands in the province, and is at present the property of Judge Hull, who had resided upon it for several years, with much satisfaction, until driven away by the effects of the revolution of 1812, when his attachment to the great American family rendered him an object of suspicion on the part of the royalists, who accordingly imprisoned him for a short time.

For several years previous to the convulsions in the northern part of the Continent, the provinces had been improving in agriculture, in population, and in commerce ; but this event made it necessary for the British government to increase the military force, for the protection of her West-India trade, and as an impenetrable barrier between the Spanish and French possessions in the Gulf of Mexico, and the American States on the Atlantic, which were ripe for revolt.

As this part of my Narrative is intended as a review of political events, the reader is referred to a distinct head for the commercial and agricultural progress just mentioned.

During Governor Grant's administration, which lasted till 1771, peace and prosperity seemed to pervade the province. On his departure, some differences arose between his successor, Major Moultrie, and several members of the council, which tended to create dissatisfaction, and to cast a gloom over the community. Presentments made by the grand jury were disregarded ; applications were made for moneys, grant-

ed for the use of the province, and said to have been misapplied ; thus creating dissensions among the heads of families, so repugnant to the harmony and the true interests of small communities.

At this period, when it was expected by some that Dr. Turnbull, on account of his great services to the colony, would have had the command of it, an attempt was made to form a representative government ; but such were the discords in the provinces, that it failed, from the wish to have annual, instead of triennial elections, as prescribed by the executive. The freeholders were inflexible in their resolution for establishing the former, and continued without representation, rather than submit. These bickerings, originating between two gentlemen of high standing, and carried on in the true spirit of high-minded Carolinians, had the effect of creating two parties, which the recommendation of Dr. Franklin, at the convention in Albany, in June, 1754, no doubt produced. It was cherished by open declarations in the north ; where the proposition was relished of forming a colonial compact, under which men were to be raised throughout the continent, for protection and defence. From this originated the project of forming the congress of the United States ; and it was this that gave its inhabitants a conviction of that strength which enabled them eventually to shake off the authority of the mother country. It will readily be inferred, that one of these parties was favourable to the American cause, and the other to that of the King.

Major Moultrie, who was an officer of merit in the Cherokee war under General Montgomery, possessed great urbanity

of manners, and strength of mind, and was devoted to the interests of the provinces. Although brother to the General so renowned in the history of the American war, he differed with him in politics, and was firm in support of the royal cause; yet, as Lieutenant Governor, his command was considered temporary, and not calculated to insure that co-operation which the affairs of the country required, and which his predecessor had more successfully obtained.

The Chief Justice, William Drayton, a gentleman of talents, and of great professional knowledge, of refined manners, and strong pretensions to power and influence, was unwilling to yield implicitly to the Lieutenant Governor, and took means to thwart his gubernatorial measures; in consequence of which he was suspended.

It is unnecessary to enlarge, at this distant period, upon the consequences of this act, which was considered very arbitrary, farther than stating, that as Mr. Drayton was suspected to be friendly to the cause of liberty, his appeal to the British ministry was unsuccessful; and he retired, first to England, and thence to South Carolina, where his talents and services were rendered conspicuously useful in effecting American independence.

The Rev. John Forbes, one of the Assistant Judges, and of the Council, was called to fill the vacancy on the bench, occasioned by the suspension of Mr. Drayton; but his politics being alike tinctured with republicanism, and an attachment to the great American cause, his appointment was not confirmed, and a Chief Justice was sent out direct from England, of whose principles, in favour of the royal cause, no doubt could be entertained.



A strong party in Georgia had exhibited some symptoms of dissatisfaction, at the conduct of the British government at home ; but it was kept so much in check by the King's party, and the policy of those in his pay, that the Whigs did not, at first, join in the American confederacy. To this temporising conduct on their part may be attributed, in some degree, the slender efforts made by the Floridians to join the Independents, whose cause was always depicted to them as hopeless in expectation, and atrocious in principle.

In March, 1774, Colonel Tonym (a *protégé* of Lord Marchmont and George Rose) arrived as Governor, with full knowledge of the discontents in the north, the commotions arising from them, the remonstrances ineffectually made to the British government, and, it is presumed, with correspondent instructions, since he issued proclamations inviting, under the most specious promises, the Americans attached to the royal cause, who wished to quit the provinces in revolt, to resort to Florida, and enjoy every advantage which he could possibly afford them.

He also had a talk with the Indians on the 26th of November, 1775, at Picolata, whither he went with the members of the Council, for the purpose of securing their alliance ; and, likewise, issued commissions for privateers : thus preparing for a war of cruelty on land, and of vexation on the sea.

Remote from the theatre of war, which blazed forth in the north, the news of the declaration was accompanied by the burning of the effigies of *John Hancock* and *Samuel Adams* on the public parade. This shameful conduct, intended to vilify those characters in the eyes of a mixed population, was not



without its effect, particularly upon the Minorcans, an illiterate but hardy set of men, seasoned to the climate, whose services were required in the field on this as well as on more powerful accounts.

It is worthy of remark, that the place where the effigies of these distinguished men were burned by the British, is the identical spot selected by the Spaniards, thirty-six years after this event, to erect a monument in honour of the *Cortes*. It is fervently hoped, that the exertions of this assembly may soon enable the Spanish people to reap the advantages resulting from constitutional liberty, and secure a long and uninterrupted enjoyment of it to themselves and their posterity.

Many of these Minorcans released themselves from their indentures, enlisted in the King's rangers, and became afterwards actively engaged under Col. Brown in carrying the war into Georgia; where, by a predatory system, in alliance with the Indians, the Americans were much annoyed, and prevented from making the attacks on East Florida which were frequently threatened, and seriously concerted. Strong efforts were at the same time made, and promising inducements held out by the Governor, to bring over the people of Georgia to the royal party; in consequence of this, many came into the province, looking to it as an asylum or refuge from the troubles incident to a state of civil war, which became active and violent in the Carolinas as well as in Georgia.

Privateers were fitted out to annoy the southern people inimical to the king; and a fort was built at St. Mary's, by Jermyn Wright, brother to the governor of Georgia, to pro-

tect them with their prizes. These were indications of hostility, which served to inflame the Georgians who had joined the confederacy; they accordingly took measures for acting offensively against the loyalists who had withdrawn to East Florida.

While Generals Lee, Moultrie, and Howe, were contemplating the invasion of East Florida, with the republican forces from Virginia, the Carolinas, and Georgia, Colonels Fuser, Brown, and M'Girth, on the British side, were mustering all the forces within their reach, of regulars, rangers, loyalist militia, and Indians, for an attack upon Georgia, having the King's brig Hinchinbrook, Captain Ellis, the St. Johns schooner, Captain Grant, and some galleys, under Captains Mowbray and Dames, to co-operate with them.

The capture, in August, 1795, of the snow Betsey, Captain Lofthouse, from London, with 111 barrels of gunpowder, gave early proofs of American heroism, and excited both surprise and alarm in the Governor of Florida. This was effected off the bar of St. Augustine by some privateersmen from Carolina, who from a sloop that was taken for a negro trader, boarded the Betsey in disguise, and discharged her in sight of the garrison and men of war in the harbour, giving a bill signed Clement Lampriere, and drawn on Miles Brewton, Charleston, for 1000*l.* sterling. Immediately after this, the Governor sent the rangers and Indians under Colonel Brown into Georgia, where they carried on a predatory warfare. They reached Fort M'Intosh, on the river St. Illa, which they attempted to surprise, but without success.

Here the reader should be informed, that Colonel Brown, having been tarred and feathered in Georgia by the liberty boys, for some intemperate conduct, did not feel much affection for them or their cause. To this enmity may be ascribed, in part, that inveteracy, zeal, and activity, which he always exhibited in every expedition directed against the Americans.—He was taken from the paths of private life, and became an enterprising and intrepid officer. Inured to the hardships, fatigues, and privations, to which this species of warfare exposed him, he was a favourite with the colonial government, and their adherents; yet on that account, and from the great influence he had with the Indians, he was viewed with jealousy by the officers of the regular army.

Governor Tonyn issued a proclamation in August, 1776, inviting, in strong terms, the inhabitants of the town of St. Johns and of the Musquetoos, to assemble and co-operate with the king's troops, in resisting the "perfidious insinuations" of the neighbouring colonists; in opposing and repelling their future incursions into the province, and to prevent any more infatuated men from joining their "*traitorous neighbours.*" This was met by a counter-proclamation in the early part of 1777, by President Button Gwinnet of Georgia, offering protection to the persons and property of those who would join the American standard, in opposition to tyranny. He remarked, that *since the God of armies had appeared so remarkably in favor of liberty*, the period could not be far distant, when the enemies of America would be clothed with everlasting shame and dishonour.

Beside the rangers who were considered as a colonial

corps, there was a body of volunteers of about 200 men, with officers of their own choosing, well trained, clothed and armed at their own expense, whose services were accepted, to perform garrison duty, during the contemplated expedition of the regular troops, under Colonel Fuser, in Georgia.

Two incidents occurred at this period that were highly favourable to the cause of liberty ; and which, with a more dense population, understanding its rights, would have proved of serious consequence, and perhaps fatal, to the king's government in the province. One of these was, an attempt to place the militia under the orders of the regulars, which was permitted by the latter, though not without violent remonstrances. The other was the case of *Walter Stewart*, a Scotchman by birth, one of the volunteer militia, and at the same time a knight of the comb, who being called upon to exercise his professional talents upon Captain Sawyer, of the King's brig Porcupine, at anchor in the harbour, went on board, and either by accident, or otherwise, brought on shore a comb belonging to the Captain. An offence of this atrocious kind, was to be punished ; and the power was most amply exercised by Captain Sawyer, who ordered the militiaman to be lashed to a gun, severely flogged, and detained on board. It was intended, no doubt, that he should remain there until his wounds were healed ; but this unfortunate Scot thought otherwise, and availing himself of an opportunity, jumped overboard, and swam to the shore, to show his lacerated back to his comrades.

This event was calculated to arouse the angry feelings and



excite the indignation of the whole community; but tended particularly to incense the militia, who, as they became more numerous by the arrival of the loyalists from the Carolinas and Georgia, were more tenacious of those rights of which Englishmen boast with so much pride. The affair was hushed, and the sufferings of the injured Scot were assuaged by a donation in money, better calculated to alleviate his circumstances, than to palliate the enormity of the offence.

This was a period at which the arm of government required all the strength it could collect; for an invasion was threatened by Colonel White from Georgia, who was said to be advancing on the Altamaha, which the Americans had fortified, so as to secure that frontier by a chain of forts. At the same time a proclamation was sent forth, inviting all the citizens of the United States to assemble at a camp formed in Burke county, and from thence to march into Florida, under the command of the governor of the state—*provisions and ammunition to be supplied gratis, and all captures free plunder.* These circumstances, together with the news of the treaty of alliance entered into between the United States and France, and a wavering disposition, manifested on the part of the Indian tribes, were alarming. The warriors, also, became restless, and were desirous of returning from the frontiers to their families; while Colonel Stuart, the superintendent of the southern department, who was actively engaged in negotiations among them, had much difficulty in restraining the Cussitahs, Oakfuskies, Big Talassies, Apalachicolas and Watskays, all favourable to the Americans, from taking an active part against the royalists, who were joined by the



Chehaws and other lower Creeks. The arrival of Captain Elphinstone (Lord Keith) and of Captain Moncrief, two distinguished officers, high in the prominent departments of the navy and engineers, promising strong reinforcements, encouraged offensive operations. Upon which Colonel Fuser, of the 60th regiment, proceeded with about 500 men and a train of artillery against Sunbury, with a view of supporting the king's party in Georgia. However, his want of success, and his loss of men and officers, (among whom was Captain Muller of the 60th,) obliged him to fall back, for the purpose of awaiting the promised reinforcements.

The daring inroads made by the Americans, whose hardihood brought them, on the 24th of June, 1778, to Amelia narrows, where they were cutting a passage through with a force said to amount to 1000 men, required the united forces of Captain Mowbray of the navy, who was preparing an expedition from St. Augustine, for the purpose of co-operating with Major Graham with 140 men of the 16th regiment, and Major Prevost, with a detachment of the 60th, who marched from the Cowford, to prevent their farther progress. But such was the jealousy which existed in the various departments of the service, that notwithstanding every effort was made, a sufficient number of men could not be found willing to man two galleys carrying twenty-four pounders. Colonel Brown could only muster seventy half-starved men ; and the Crackers refused to join : thus rendering it necessary to fortify St. John's Bluff. For which purpose, and to allay the apprehensions of danger, Colonel Fuser, as commander of the troops, issued a proclamation on the 27th June, requiring

all those who had not entered the militia, to join him, "as the rebels might be expected every instant at the bar, or thereabouts."

To the alarm which this state of things naturally created, was added a catastrophe, in the death of Captain Skinner, deputy superintendent of Indian affairs, an active and faithful officer, while on service on the frontiers of Georgia. The cause and manner of his death were variously and not satisfactorily accounted for. The event created doubts as to the farther attachment of those important allies at such a critical juncture.

Thus far, the war in the south had been carried on experimentally, by both parties, in threatening proclamations; and, when those were found to be of no effect, by rangers, scouts, and riflemen, for want of regular troops, or of materials to form them in a thinly-peopled country. In the north, resistance to the king's armies became more systematic and violent; and the American forces, now joined by the French and Spaniards, were more successful.

Policy, or necessity, prescribed a change of measures to the British;—Georgia and the Carolinas became the theatre of war. General Prevost left Florida to be guarded by the militia, and marched into Georgia, with a considerable force of regulars and others, who endured many hardships, having been obliged to depend on oysters for food. On the 6th of January, 1779, he took possession of Sunbury, and subsequently of Savannah and Augusta; thus securing East Florida from any encroachments. Colonel Brown had succeeded in bringing over the Indians from the Cassetas, Big Talassies, and

Oakfuskies, (towns in favour of the Americans,) and prevailed upon them, by what was termed a *pardonable artifice*, to annoy the settlers on the Georgia frontiers. From 2000 to 3000 of them marched to the aid of General Campbell, whom the Cherokees also had promised to join, as soon as required; notwithstanding the exertions used, and great encouragement offered, to dissuade them, by Don B. de Galvez, a young enterprising General in the Spanish service, and Governor of Louisiana, who besieged Pensacola, and became master of West Florida on the 21st of September, 1779.

The loss sustained by the British in the west, was not counterbalanced by the temporary conquests they made in Georgia; where they were most formidably assailed, in October of the same year, (1780,) by the combined forces of the United States and France, under Count D'Estaing; who allowed General Prevost, by a *ruse de guerre*, time to fortify Savannah, and to receive such reinforcements as to oblige the Count to retire, to the astonishment of the besieged, and the no small mortification and detriment of the allied forces.

This state of things carried the war out of East Florida; so that the province had, from various quarters, an increase of population, seeking repose, and looking to it as an asylum to repair their misfortunes: but they demanded a representative form of government, which was soon admitted in the manner prescribed by royal authority in 1763.

About this time, the British government was vacillating between the extremes of adopting a lenient policy, or a rigorous course, in prosecuting a war which had become formidable from the accession of powerful allies to the American

cause. While its armies were compelled to submit to the former policy, the commanders in the south resorted to an opposite and less conciliatory course, by laying violent hands upon some of the most respectable and most illustrious citizens in the Carolinas, as will be seen by the following list of their names, arranged in alphabetical order : John Budd, Edward Blake, Joseph Bee, Richard Beresford, John Berwick, D. Bordeaux, Robert Cochrane, Benjamin Cudworth, H. V. Crouch, J. S. Cripps, Edward Darrell, Daniel Dessaussure, John Edwards, George Flagg, Thomas Ferguson, General Gadsden, William Hazil Gibbes, Thomas Grimbball, William Hall, Thomas Hall, George A. Hall, Isaac Holmes, Thomas Heyward, jun. Richard Hutson, Noble William Jones, William Johnstone, John Loveday, William Livingstone, William See, Richard Lushington, William Logan, Rev. I. Lewis, William Massey, Alexander Moultrie, Arthur Middleton, Edward M'Bready, John Mowatt, Edward North, John Neufville, Joseph Parker, Christopher Peters, Benjamin Postell, Samuel Prideaux, John Ornes Poyas, Edward Rutledge, Dr. David Ramsay, General Jacob Reed, Hugh Rutledge, John Samsam, Thomas Sarage, Josiah Smith, Thomas Singleton, Philip Smith, James Hambden Thomson, John Todd, Peter Timothy, Anthony Toomer, Edward Weyman, Benjamin Walter, Morton Wilkinson, and James Wakefield. Of these sixty-one gentlemen of high standing and character, forty were most ungraciously transported from Charleston, in August, 1780, to St. Augustine and in a few months after, the remainder were compelled to submit, in spite of every remonstrance, to similar atrocities, and dragged from their



homes and families, to the comfortless quarters of a garrison town, in which they were all paroled, excepting the venerable General Gadsden, who inflexibly disdained the proffered indulgence, and was committed to the fort, in which he remained many months a close prisoner.

This harsh measure, which, without farther explanation, was called one of imperious policy by the officer enforcing it, little corresponded with the overtures for a pacification contemplated experimentally by the government at home. It tended, however, to improve the culture of liberty in the Parson's orange groves, in which these gentlemen were permitted to vegetate, and to increase the number of disaffected, rather than to excite the inhabitants to acts of aggression against the party on account of their principles, as was hoped on the part of the leading royalists. General Rutherford and Colonel Isaacs, of North Carolina, were exiled to Florida at the same time.

This assemblage of republican luminaries, transferred from their natural sphere of action to the capital of East Florida, fortuitously took place at a period when the Governor could no longer defer the meeting of an assembly of *royalists*, authorized by act of parliament seventeen years before, and now strongly urged by the people.

The immediate conjuncture of circumstances so highly important to the province, about to change its political state, and involving the liberties of its inhabitants, were objects of lively interest to the community, and perplexing to the politician ; of this the reader may judge, by referring to the correspondence, and other official documents, that follow.



*Extract of a letter from Governor Tonym to Lord George Germaine, Secretary of State.*

It is with peculiar satisfaction that I assure your Lordship, that since the departure of Monsieur d'Estaing, we have, without danger, or the apprehension of it, and unmolested, carried on the internal business of the province, in advancing agriculture, and furnishing naval stores and lumber for the West India market. The season has been remarkably rainy, and the planters have raised sufficient provisions for their own consumption, and for the supply of this town, and increased their stock of negroes, by which means the price of grain has fallen from ten shillings to six shillings a bushel; and was the garrison properly supplied, grain, beef, and every kind of provisions, would be greatly reduced, and we should stand in no need of assistance, as formerly, from the neighbouring colonies. The number of negroes continue to increase. The province is exceedingly healthy, which has not been the case in Carolina and Georgia; yet a desire of novelty, more extensive prospect of trade, and the circulation of money with the army, has led some merchants, and others, to return to their former settlements.

As an inducement to detain the most useful and industrious part of the community, I have given assurances that his Majesty, through your Lordship's recommendation, is to build a fort immediately at the mouth of the St. Marys, for the protection of trade to the northward; and that a house of assembly shall be called in the course of the winter, to regulate our internal police, and to make a few local laws.

The speedy settlement of the northern part of this province, will induce many valuable families and loyal subjects to remain in this country ; whereas, if this is to remain unprotected, we shall be infested by thieves and robbers from that quarter, and the merchant and planter must continue to suffer for want of a good port, as at present the channel of commerce is through Charleston, by which a double freight and insurance is laid upon all exports and imports.

There are above 20,000 barrels of turpentine, and a variety of other stores, now on the planters hands, at St. John's river, for want of a market.

I have, my Lord, maturely weighed the expediency, necessity, advantages and disadvantages, benefit and danger, of convoking a house of representatives ; and nothing but the necessity of it, (to remove deep-rooted prejudices,) for the benefit of this province, could have induced me to request instructions from your Lordship, relative thereto, how to proceed farther on this point ; but these great objects must actuate my conduct, and determine me to take this arduous and dangerous step.

I perceive the cry for a provincial legislature, to remedy local inconveniences, is as loud as ever ; and suggestions are thrown out, that without it, people's property is not secure, and that they must live in a country where they can enjoy, in their utmost extent, the advantages of the British constitution, and laws formed with their consent. But mention the expediency, propriety, reasonableness, justice and gratitude of imposing taxes for the expenses of government, they are all silent, or so exceedingly poor as not to be able to pay the east farthing.

Notwithstanding, my Lord, that this is in general the temper of the people, I purpose to issue writs for a general election of representatives, to meet the beginning of the year.

I foresee other inconveniences, arising from several of the principal rebel prisoners being sent here from Charleston, who may poison the minds of the people; although to prevent this, and for their former conduct, they are treated with great contempt, and to have any friendly intercourse with them, is considered as a mark of disrespect to his Majesty, and displeasing to me.

It is my most earnest wish, and chief endeavour, strictly to comply with every instruction I have the honour of receiving from his majesty, communicated to me by your Lordship; but the late date of your Lordship's letters, and other circumstances, often puts it out of my power; and it is with an exultation of joy and gratitude that I render your Lordship my sincere thanks for the favorable light in which your Lordship has viewed my endeavors in his Majesty's service, and recommended to the treasury the payment of my reasonable and necessary expenditures. Your Lordship's letter, in which you inform me that no allowance is made for Indian presents, I only received lately; before which, considerable expenses had been incurred, and usually discharged from that fund, which I am confident your Lordship will discharge. With respect to my future conduct, I beg leave to inform your Lordship, that the Indians have ever been well received here; that they have been of great service, in protecting the province against the repeated incursions of the rebels; that a body of them is settled within a few miles of the set-

tlements on St. John's river ; and that by withdrawing their usual supplies, which they will impute to our dissatisfaction with them, or to our poverty, they will readily side with the rebels or Spaniards. The murder of one man by them, would soon break up our settlements, and unpeople the province, which is not yet established.

Moreover, the Indian fund answered many other necessary purposes, such as ferry boat expenses. So that, I hope your Lordship will order payment of the necessary expenditures for this year, and recommend to parliament some reasonable provision for the succeeding ; especially, as the civil department will be considered, in times of peace, I humbly presume, the most proper for regulating the Indian department.

*Extract of a letter from Governor Tonyn to Lord George Germaine, Secretary of State.*

St. Augustine, 1780.

Apprehending, my Lord, upon grounds already communicated by me to your Lordship, that the court of Spain intended to invade this province, I have used my utmost efforts to strengthen the fortifications, by repairing both lines of the town, which are now formidable, and adding several new works, the main burden and expense of which, my Lord, has fallen upon the inhabitants, who have for several months had a considerable part of their negroes employed at the King's works.

I have repeatedly represented the defenceless state of the province to his Majesty's commander in chief of the army

and navy, and the commanding officers of the district; but, my Lord, to little effect. And, without particular instructions from your Lordship, restrained as I am by his Majesty's general instructions, my representations will be without effect.

Last June, Lieut. Colonel Clarke\* and Colonel Durnford of the engineers, arrived here, and returned to Savannah in a few weeks, carrying with them the small reinforcement of troops they brought, and the King's artificers: however, I have the satisfaction to inform your Lordship, that the works are almost completed, under the direction of Captain Burrard,† of the 60th regiment, whose judgment and close attention deserve commendation. Several galleys, mounting one and two twenty-four pounders, have been built for the defence of the bar: they are not manned, though I have put an embargo on all vessels for six weeks past, greatly prejudicial to the commercial interests, to facilitate the matter. I proposed to Lieut. Colonel Skinner to commission officers, who would enlist men for that service, to be in readiness in case of an invasion, and not to receive pay until on actual service. By this means, my Lord, many of them might follow, in the mean time, other occupations, and would be secure against being impressed on board the King's ships.

It is with deep concern that I take this opportunity of signifying to your lordship my apprehensions of danger in case of an attack by a formidable force.

The state of the garrison, although exceeding healthy, is very inconsiderable. The militia does not consist, for com-

\* Sir Alured.

† Sir Harry.



mon service, of above ——— : several are Minorcans, and I have my doubts of their loyalty, being of Spanish and French extraction, and of the Roman Catholic religion.

The Seminole Indians, 800 gunmen, have been employed in scouting parties along the coast, since the surrender of West Florida. They are well affected, and I can confide in the head men. But the body of the nation are far from being satisfied with the economy that prevails in that department : and Spanish emissaries are not wanting to foster discontent.

As the aid of Indians will be of the utmost importance to us in our weak state, I proposed to conciliate and secure their affections by engaging to meet them in congress at St. John's river in October. However, I could procure neither provisions nor presents for that purpose, the Indian presents your Lordship was pleased to direct to be sent to me not being arrived, and it is with difficulty I can supply straggling parties with a few strouds and a little rice.

But, my Lord, how can I render the Indians serviceable, when I can have neither presents nor provisions but by an application through the commanding officer of the troops to a deputy commissary of the superintendant of Indian affairs ? And were I disposed to lead them to action, I should be at a loss, so circumstanced, by whom they were to be conducted, and by whom officered and fed.

The General Assembly, my Lord, have enacted strict rules for regulating the militia, and obliging all the male inhabitants to enroll and serve. I have applied to your Lordship and to ———, to have 3,000 stand of arms laid in for

their use in lieu of those given to ———. Fifteen hundred stand of arms have arrived, with other military stores, and are lodged in the fort. But my applications to the commanding officer have been ineffectual: arms have been absolutely refused; and neither arms nor military stores, of any kind, are to be issued by the store-keeper without the order of the commandant. The officers of the militia send provisions to the guard house for the poorer sort of the inhabitants, who have been for some time doing town duty; my application to Colonel Glazier for a day's rations having been refused. And there is a scarcity and dearth of provisions among the planters, from the dryness of the last summer, and their principal hands having been employed in making naval stores.

The enclosed list of exports for last year will not be unacceptable to your Lordship, by which it appears that 40,000 barrels of naval stores have been shipped in the course of last year; and I flatter myself next year will give a considerable additional increase, as I look for several refugee families from the neighboring colonies, who shall receive every encouragement and protection in my power. The second general assembly sits in the beginning of the year; and I hope both houses will be well disposed, and preserve harmony in the public business.

For your Lordship's inspection, is enclosed a state of the late dispute between the upper and commons houses of assembly.

The cartel vessels have arrived from the Havana: the last informed me that great sickness prevailed there among the troops.

Although your Lordship was pleased to order the civil officers of government who are absent to return to the province, none have as yet appeared, my Lord, and the public business is inaccurately done ; no encouragement is given to persons fit for executing the different trusts ; and the influence of the civil officers is wanted to strengthen government.

*Extract of a letter from Governor Tonyn to Lord George Germaine, Secretary of State.*

St. Augustine, January, 1781.

By my last letter of ———, I had the honour of informing your Lordship, that the first general assembly of this province met on ——— the ——— of ———, and that the freeholders were judicious, in their election of the most substantial, sensible, and best affected persons in the province, to be their representatives, which continues to be manifested by the moderation, harmony, and zeal, with which they continue to expedite the public business. I had the honour of transmitting your Lordship the addresses and speech upon that occasion, and copies of two acts of assembly, one of which was essentially necessary for establishing a militia, on a footing that will, I hope, greatly contribute to the defence of his Majesty's province, whilst it is expressive of the firmest attachment to his Majesty's person and government.

I have the honour of informing your Lordship, that an act has since passed, which enables me to call upon the planters for a proportion of all the negroes within the province, to work at the fortifications until they are finished. This aid

from the people, my Lord, I shall exercise with the utmost delicacy and moderation, as it is a very heavy burden at present on the planters. Copies of the journals of both houses, and of all the acts of assembly, are preparing to be transmitted to your Lordship by the first favourable opportunity. I am sure, from the present temper of both houses, that their deliberations will meet with his Majesty's approbation, and be auspicious to the future prosperity of the province. And I am confident, that the spirit of trust in government, and a determined resolution to maintain to the utmost their rights against any assailants, will not only be pleasing to their sovereign, but more cheerfully draw from his Majesty's servants on this side of the Atlantic such succour as they can afford.

*An Opinion on the State of the Province in the fall of 1780, submitted to the British Government, with the reasons suggested for calling a House of Representatives, and forming a Provincial Legislature as soon as conveniently may be.*

It is known that, for several years, it has been the general sense of the inhabitants of this province, that a few regulations and laws are much wanted; that to form them, a provincial legislature would be highly expedient and useful; and that a cessation of calling a house would not be construed into an encroachment upon the constitution and liberty of the subject. That the want of such legislative body has been presented repeatedly as a great grievance; and that, although sometimes this was done from the influence of ambitious

men, desirous of having some weight in the administration of government, it proceeded often from the real sentiments of the people.

A prejudice prevails universally, that when a provincial legislature does not exist, the people must be governed by military law. This prejudice, nothing but the forming a provincial legislature can remove. And to remove it is necessary for the content of the inhabitants now in the province, and to induce others to come from the neighbouring colonies. English subjects will never believe, without some such representation, that they enjoy the privileges and advantages of the British constitution and a free government.

When people are governed by laws, to which they have, or think they have, given their consent, they submit readily to any inconveniences they may suffer; and burdens of their own imposition are easily borne.

In fact, there are many local inconveniences which exist at present—such as establishing a property in negroes, regulating them and their punishment, and contributing to public works, and recovering of small debts, and debts due by persons who, though not in the province, have property in it, which cannot be attached for want of an authorizing law. These would be remedied by a legislature; and it will be readily allowed, that whatever ordinances of council have been promulgated, have been generally ill received; and for want of a sanction which a law would impose, have had little effect.

It is generally believed, that instructions have been received from the ministry to convoke a house of assembly.



It is presumed that it would be justice, and pleasing to the people to know, that these instructions originated from a representation of the propriety and expediency of such a measure ; and that to form a house of representatives is perfectly agreeable to the executive.

As people in most countries know, or pretend to know, many things they have little or nothing to do with, these late suggestions respecting a provincial legislature, are by many construed into a sense not favourable to popular applause, as if it was a measure forced upon the executive, or at least as if it had not sufficient confidence to put in those over whom it presides ;—especially, silence by the council upon this subject may give grounds for such unfavourable insinuations.

Until some intimation of an intention to form a house of assembly, the sentiments of the people will not be known ; that then, they must be stifled, and methods found to discover and make known their sentiments to the executive ; and that although a code of laws may be framed in idea, or upon paper, they will not be exactly copied, not even from those of Georgia, where a similarity of circumstances may be sufficient reasons for adopting them.

The members of the legislature will think themselves free, and will act as such.

As to taxes, the province is able to bear none. Some nominal ones, however, may be adopted ; and it is reasonable, and would be a mark of our gratitude and good sense, to make such ; and by this, lay a foundation for a revenue for defraying the expense of supporting the government of

the whole empire, and also of our own provincial exigencies, and an acknowledgment of dependence upon the supreme legislature of the whole empire.

Suppose a tax for either of the above purposes upon every negro imported for sale, upon every pipe of wine or hogshead of rum. In such cases as this, the law has a great show; the treasury and its officers alone may be supposed to know how inconsiderable the sum received is; and it would be reckoned no fraud to impose taxes that would have, in effect, no existence for some years.

Establish taxes upon uncultivated lands, or take away, after a certain term of years, the private property in them. If the province will be loyal, and show gratitude, the English nation will support it in raising produce, beneficial to the mother country, and the King will continue his bounty for the support of government.

The civil government in Georgia was supported for years after they had a provincial legislature, and why may not this? The mind of man is alive, and formed for novelty and schemes; and people are always pleased with the appearance of consequence, and works they can call their own. Upon this principle, it is apprehended, a house of assembly would be useful, and increase our numbers. Dissensions would arise, but they are a less evil. As to the expediency of imposing taxes for the purposes required, nothing is more reasonable; and it is to be regretted we have it not in our power to take the lead, and set a laudable example to the other colonies. Georgia has, it is presumed, already made provision for the expenses of the government of the empire,

and for the provincial exigencies. Upon the same principle, it would be beneficial to suggest, that a fort is immediately to be built at the mouth of St. Mary's river; that lots will be granted immediately in Hillsborough town; that an officer of the customs and pilot shall be appointed, and trade encouraged.

That to add to this show, the surveyor should resurvey Hillsborough town; petitions for town lots be received and surveys ordered, and that a party of men should be sent there for the protection of the inhabitants; and whether any such plan of a fort is to be made use of or not, will depend entirely upon the executive. In the mean time, it may forward the settling of the country; and if the king's troops are not in danger of being cut off, they will be there stationed beneficially for the protection of the province.

Such was the project submitted for the farther establishment of a representative government and settlement in the province of East Florida.

Preparations having been accordingly made, Governor Tonyn met the upper and lower houses of assembly, and delivered to them a speech, in March, 1781, of which the following are extracts, showing the objects of government, the progress in legislation, fortification, and at length of taxation; which last was always looked to as a consequence inseparable from the privilege of the representative government, which it had been declared by the executive most for the interest of the inhabitants to defer on that account.

No quit-rents or taxes had hitherto been called for, and the

burden of contributing towards the expense of the government was unknown to the new legislators, who were much at a loss for expedients to raise the necessary revenues from the slender resources which presented themselves in the infant state of the colony.

*Governor Tonyn's Speech on convening for the first time the  
Legislature.*

I am happy that, during my administration of the government of this province, it hath arrived at such a state of affluence and importance, as to enable me with propriety to fulfil his Majesty's most gracious engagements, in his royal proclamation of the 7th of October, 1763, by establishing a provincial legislature, for the purpose of making constitutions, ordaining laws, statutes and ordinances, as near as may be agreeable to the laws of England, under such regulations and restrictions as are used in other colonies, for the public welfare and good government of this province and its inhabitants.

Of late, gentlemen, the increase of property, from your success in commerce and planting, has been considerable; and the industry and judgment of a few may evince to Great Britain, that ample returns in produce may be made, for money laid out in raising a produce equally beneficial to the planter and the mother country, in one of the most healthy and fertile climates upon earth.

As the King and parliament have, with an astonishing and unprecedented condescension, relinquished their just right of taxation, provided the provincial legislature will make due



provision for defraying a reasonable part of the expenses of the government of the empire at large, and for the internal government of the colony, I trust that you, gentlemen, in the first moment of your existence, will make a provision appropriated to these important purposes ; more as a mark of your regard to justice, affection and gratitude, for the government under which we have been protected and generously fostered and maintained, than for any immediate real service our supply can afford it.

The quota you in your present circumstances can make, I am sensible, will not be adequate to the expenses of the provincial government, &c. &c.

Several bills were passed ; the principal one of which, *Magna Charta*, met with much discussion and violent opposition, on the following grounds, viz.—That it was not clear, full, accessible, and not adapted to the understanding and capacities of those for whose conduct it was to be a rule.—That several essential articles intended to strengthen the hands of government, and insuring a revenue, as well as others declaratory of the rights of the colonists, were rejected. That instead of containing provisions calculated to extricate the inhabitants from difficulties which the laws of England could not reach, because none existed applicable to the then state of the colony, it left many important questions, which were the undoubted province of the legislature to regulate and to settle, to be determined by judges appointed by the crown ; thus unnecessarily subjecting the inhabitants to a voluminous and multifarious code of laws, written, many of them, in a foreign lan-



guage, and Saxon character; some obsolete, others useless, and only a few suitable to an infant colony.—That it did not require a declaration from the King and Parliament as a fundamental condition, that they would not impose any duty, tax, or assessment whatever, except only such as might be expedient for the regulation of commerce, and applicable to the use of the colony. That in tolerating different religions, and offering liberty to persons of different nations who should become inhabitants of the province, it excepted infidel negroes, which was an exception repugnant to the ancient bulwark of English liberty. That the governor and council are, by a clause in the act, vested with too extensive an authority—that of withdrawing licenses for the exercise of public worship, thereby establishing them judges of the doctrines of religion, and vesting them with an authority that must greatly restrain and circumscribe that spirit of toleration which this act is meant to establish, and which may prove prejudicial to the protestant religion.

Among the other bills which were passed, was one authorizing taxes, to a certain extent; but which, on their collection, did not go farther than a very inconsiderable sum, obtained for licenses to sell spirituous liquors; it did not amount to the salary of the Treasurer of the province. It was in agitation to oblige the grantees of lands either to improve them, or to relinquish their grants, which on a public sale were to produce a more efficient revenue; but this was interrupted by a political circumstance of no small magnitude, being nothing less than an express order from Sir Guy Carle-

*General Leslie in Carolina*, to evacuate the province, with the troops and such loyalists as were desirous of accompanying them. Thus the flattering hopes of the colonists were frustrated, when they were about to derive the hard-earned fruits of their attachment to the royal cause. This order, as harsh and inconsiderate on the part of its authors as it was mortifying and excruciating to the inhabitants, necessarily became the subject of a strong remonstrance, first to the Governor, and then to the King, depicting their disappointment, and the inevitable ruin that would ensue, if it was carried into execution. They were couched in the following terms :

That this province had been held out as an asylum for the well affected in the other colonies to resort to, where they might expect every protection and assistance ; which assurances were sanctioned with the royal authority.—That the loyal inhabitants who may be enabled to embark must depart this province divested of their property, and, in a state of the greatest indigence, be obliged, with their families, to look out for new habitations, or become burthensome to the government. Those who are obliged to remain must be in the most deplorable and distressed situation, without government, laws, or arms, surrounded on all hands by enemies and savages, and exposed to the depredations of every lawless banditti or hostile invader. And at all events, we must humbly request your excellency to apply to the commanding officer here, for such provisions and military stores as may enable us to make a defence, until we can receive further

ton, H. B. M. Commander in Chief in America, addressed to succour, and that your excellency will be pleased to lose no time in making the like application to the commander of the southern district.

During the height of festivity among the military in celebrating the King's birth day, in 1780, Mr. Manning, an ensign in the army, when commanding officer on guard at the fort, committed a most flagrant breach of the peace, and disgraceful to the service, by ordering the soldiers forcibly to bring a married woman of the Minorcans into the guard room, and committing a rape upon her body. Although the man was admitted to bail, the licentious soldiery were so dissatisfied with the proceedings of the law officers against him, that they collected in a body of about 200, paraded through the streets, went to the husband's house, pulled it down, and immediately dispersed. The Governor, and the commanding officer of the troops, offered a reward for the discovery of the perpetrators of this audacious act, and proposed to Colonel Glazier to single out some suspected persons from the troops when paraded. But the Colonel, and the Captain of the corps, suggesting apprehensions of a mutiny in that event, and the injured person and the community in general, after the first heat of resentment, being appeased, further attempts at detection were deemed inexpedient; the officers promising their utmost endeavours to discover the ring-leaders. This, however, was never done; for the ensign put an end to his existence, as soon as he heard that the grand jury had found a bill against him.

About the time this disgraceful act was perpetrated,

an Indian, in a state of intoxication, was killed in the street by a soldier, which caused much discontent among the inhabitants, as well as alarm to the executive. This was a period when small events, similar to those just cited, were calculated to rise into an importance, which the contagious spirit of the north might have raised to a pitch that would have overthrown the tottering power of the British, but for the paucity of means within the reach of the people. At this period the government was manifestly in the hands of a military commandant, although nominally vested in an officer of high grade in the army.

As soon as the Spaniards were known to take an active part in the war, they became, from their wealth and other circumstances, more agreeable enemies than the Americans; and the spirit of enterprize was immediately directed against them, although the British government and its subjects were too much disposed to treat them as a weaker enemy than they proved to be.

In the spring of 1783, Colonel Devereux, who had accompanied the provincial corps from the Carolinas, a high spirited young man, celebrated for his gallantry on many occasions, and who will long be remembered for the urbanity and suavity of his manners, made a successful attack on New Providence.

He sailed on this desperate attempt in two private armed brigs of 12 guns each, with the rangers, &c. commanded by Captains Dowd and Fennell, from St. Augustine, and about fifty raggamuffins as volunteers; and, after picking up a few recruits, principally negroes, at Eleuthera and the adjacent

island, appeared off the key which forms the harbour of Nassau, on the east of the town, towards night. The conquest of a fortified island by so disproportionate a body of men, could only be effected by consummate ingenuity and address. The men were landed without opposition to the east of fort Montagu, which guards the entrance of the harbour in that quarter; and so great was the supineness of the garrison, that when the invaders had reached the ramparts, the sentinel only was awake to defend them. He appeared with a lighted match in his hand, ready to blow up the fortress in case of extremity. But Colonel Devereux, who headed the attack, before the sentinel could recover from his surprise, sprang upon him, and frustrating his intention, made him a prisoner, with the sleeping garrison. Having thus easily possessed himself of Fort Montagu, Colonel Devereux immediately proceeded to the top of the ridge, and took a position in front of the Governor's house in the upper part of the town. Every artifice was used to deceive the Spaniards, both as to the number and description of the enemy they had to contend with. A show of boats was made continually rowing from the vessels, filled with men, who apparently landed, but in fact concealed themselves by lying down, as they returned to the vessels, and afterwards made their appearance as a fresh supply of troops proceeding to disembark. Men of straw, it is said, were dressed out to increase the apparent number on the heights; and some of the troops, to intimidate the Spaniards, were painted and disguised like the Indians. One or two galleys in the harbour had been captured: trusting to these circumstances in his favour,



Colonel Devereux, with a pompous description of his formidable force, summoned the Governor to surrender. Some hesitation being at first discovered, the Colonel seconded his overtures with a well directed shot at the Governor's house from a field piece, which produced an immediate capitulation. The Spanish troops, in laying down their arms, it is said, could not refrain from expressing the utmost mortification and confusion, as they surveyed their conquerors, not only so inferior in point of numbers, but ludicrous in their dress and military appearance.

In June, 1784, Governor Zespédez, with a few troops, took possession of St. Augustine, in the name of his most Catholic Majesty, when the British inhabitants, after an exchange of civilities with the Spanish officers, took shipping at Amelia and St. John's—some for England, and others for various quarters of the British dominions, in search of an asylum. Those who were allowed to prefer the West India islands to the barren rocks of the Bahamas, or the inhospitable regions of Nova Scotia, carried their negroes to Jamaica, when the severe treatment on one hand, and the apprehension of the colonists on the other, that the American system would be injurious to their slaves, created a disgust among the governors and governed to such degree, that debt, disappointment and despair were the only remuneration which the ill-fated Floridians received for their credulity in government which had thus deceived them by false promises. Strong remonstrances were made to the King and parliament, in which Lord Hawke, with his characteristic goodness, took a most lively part. The cries of want and distress loudly

called for relief; and the people of England, recognized the appeal by a vote of supply, and the execration in which they viewed the conduct of their ministers; but before their humane efforts could be brought into action, death had in seven years opened his jaws to decrease the applicants, and to relieve thereby most of the languishing and desponding pilgrims, the survivors of whom were allowed to perceive the baneful effects of court favour lavished upon some by pensions, salaries, and liberal appropriations, while others were allowed to starve, or were turned over to the liberality of those very American people who were most glaringly depicted and vilified a few years before as a banditti! Many of those who were placed in this last predicament, have had reason to thank the great Disposer of all things, since they have enjoyed the best effects of their well-placed confidence.

The Spaniards, thus left, confined themselves to the limits of the town, apprehending that the Indians would annoy the few who were disposed, or had means to continue cultivating the plantations. Some excesses were at first committed, but discontinued by reason of the trade to which the house of Panton, Leslie & Forbes were licensed. Peace was maintained at the price of these supplies, and the provinces continued in a declining state, until the year 1792, when the French revolution, in its all grasping wisdom, brought them again into political notice, by the alleged project on the part of Mr. Genet, the French minister, to render them subservient to the views of his government.

The scheme was thwarted by the provident hand of President Washington, and the country rescued by his intervention from the horrors incident to a state of warfare.

Although the emigrants from St. Domingo might have resorted, with the remnants of their property, to Florida, and found it an asylum promising peace and plenty, yet, distracted and distressed as those truly unfortunate people were, it did not meet the views of men flying from fire and sword, to take up arms to conquer provinces for a government to which their evils were ascribed. Nor did the political situation of Spain cherish the acquisition of that species of population for her colonies.

Governor White had succeeded to the command of East Florida, and, as usual, issued a proclamation, offering, as far as he could, encouragement to settlers. (*See Appendix.*) But the conditions were relished only by such inhabitants of the United States as looked more to convenience than to the munificence of Spanish authority, which was supposed to afford but a precarious protection or security, although devoid of equivalent taxation.

The extraordinary price to which the peculiar properties of Sea Island Cotton raised that valuable plant, stimulated several southern planters to extend their production of it to the islands on the coast of Florida. The Americans, viewed as invidious neighbours, had great difficulty in persuading Governor White that the zeal manifested towards settling the province under his government, was favourable to the Spanish crown.

This gentleman, of Irish descent, had all the roughness peculiar to that nation, without the suavity so predominant among the higher classes. His instructions, or the prejudices of his government, rendered him inimical to American settlers; yet the inhabitants from the Bahamas were more fortunate, in being permitted to form agricultural establishments, near the Musquito.

## SITUATION AND CLIMATE.

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EAST FLORIDA lies between lat. 24 54, and 30 N. having St. Mary's river for its northern boundary, and Cape Florida for the southern. It is 350 miles in length, not including the Keys; and varies in breadth at the centre of the peninsula, owing to its tapering form, from 200 to 240 miles. It contains about thirty-two millions of acres, and is ventilated alternately by the Atlantic and Mexican Seas, to which circumstance its great salubrity is ascribed. The change of seasons is hardly felt, except in the northern parts of the province, where vegetation receives a check, and in some instances, an entire stagnation, for a short time. Snow is rarely seen, even in those parts; yet the cold north and north-west winds are not without their influence.

The winds are less changeable in the peninsula than farther north, being between the east and south-east during the spring, summer, and beginning of autumn, when the rains commence, and fall heavily for a short time each day. There is frequently, perceptible in the northern parts of the Province, in the months of July and August, a thick and heavy air, which proceeds from the west and south-west



winds, occasioning sultry weather at those periods, when the less of strangers expose themselves the better, until they obtain relief from the eastern and north and south-eastern winds, which afford a coolness and an elasticity, by which the system is agreeably invigorated. In those months, at the period of the day most oppressive, between eight and ten in the morning, before the sea breeze sets in, the thermometer has rarely exceeded 94. In St. Augustine, and south of it, the winter is scarcely perceptible at mid-day, at which time the ice previously formed melts. On the 3d of January, 1766, frost destroyed all the tropical productions in the country, except oranges. But this does not happen more than twice, perhaps, in half a century.

The climate in East Florida is more uniform than in any part of the continent, without either extreme ; being too remote from the north to admit the dominion of the cold winds to prevail long enough for any sensible effect, while its proximity to the south affords the mild and refreshing coolness of the trade winds.

Accounts from all quarters correspond in representing the capital (St. Augustine) as the *Montpelier* of North America, to which the healthy repair for refreshment, and invalids for health. This does not depend on bare round assertion, but can be substantiated directly by facts.

One of these facts, to be relied upon, was the extraordinary healthiness of the 9th British regiment, which quartered and performed garrison duty there, for eighteen months, and never lost a man by natural death.

A detachment of artillery, which arrived from the West

Indies in a sickly state, soon recruited, and left no traces of the contagion.

The great age attained by the Spaniards and others who have resided in the province, are undeniable proofs of the general salubrity of this country. Among these were Mr. Jesse Fish, of New York, already mentioned; Mr. Fatio, a gentleman of much respectability and information from Switzerland; Clementi, an honest fisherman; and Don Solano, a worthy farmer, now living: these last are Spaniards.

In 1765 there was a white frost on the 19th of December, and in 1765, a fall of snow in the northern part of the province, which was of short duration, and of no material detriment to the agricultural interests.

Cardena, in his history, says, that the soldiers who arrived in Spain from Florida, in 1569, were healthy and strong, attributing it to the use of the sassafras tree. Such was the confidence in its virtues, confirmed by Doctor Nicholas Monavedas, who wrote upon the medicinal properties of plants in the West Indies, that each soldier carried a piece of sassafras in his pocket, which he would exhibit and say, This is the tree which we have brought to cure us if we should be taken ill, as was done in Florida;—each recounting it as a prodigy.

By reference to Bartram's Journal, while on St. John's river, the following observations are found. In 1765, the thermometer was, on the—

21st December	. 74 at P. M.	Wind S
22d . . . . .	70	S W
23d . . . . .	43	N W

	24th December	. 74 at P. M.	S
	27th . . . . .	50	S
	31st . . . . .	56	
1766	2d January . . .	35	N W
	3d . . . . .	26	N W
	4th . . . . .	50	S
	6th . . . . .	38	S
	7th . . . . .	36	N W
	10th		
	11th		N W

From other data until the 10th of May, 1772, the weather was dry and cold. The winters of 1772-73, had little frost; having been mostly open, and favourable to the sugar cane. Dry weather in July and August, having scarcely had a shower of rain from the middle of March to July.—The whole country was so much parched, that the corn grew up in long small stalks, with little heads, without moisture to fill them.

In the winter of 1773-4, there was a snow storm in Florida, which was not injurious, being succeeded by moderate warm showers throughout the season; and in 1775 the seasons were very favourable, having had frequent rains from the beginning of May.

During the whole period this country was occupied by the British, it does not appear that there were more than ten medical men there:—namely, Dr. Turnbull, who followed the planting line very extensively; Dr. Yeates, the Secretary; Dr. Catherwood, a judge; Doctors West, Hill, Wright, Kemp, Scott, and Henderson, attached to the army; and, lastly, Doctors

Barron and Clithera, from South Carolina, whose professional talents were seldom required or exercised, their income being derived from more profitable sources. And, under the present government, there is only one physician who practices; and he derives his emoluments from the crown, which permits medicines and drugs to be sold at cost and charges to the inhabitants.

While experience affords undeniable proofs of the general salubrity of the peninsula, it must not be presumed that its inhabitants are solitary examples of constant exemption from such epidemics as Providence, in its wisdom, dispenses to the most favoured countries; and, therefore, it will not be a matter of surprise to the reader to learn that St. Augustine should have been visited by one of these in 1804. So, also, the regular sea breezes are liable to interruption by occasional squalls, which are short and violent, but immediately after the atmosphere becomes quite clear. At the equinoxes, particularly that of autumn, the rains fall very heavily between 1 A. M. and 4 P. M. after which a serene sky, which becomes crimsoned with variegated figures in the west, bids adieu for the day to the glowing tints of a tropical sun.

The heat of a vertical sun, every where great on the continent, is here mitigated during the summer by the sea breezes, as has been already stated, which effectually refresh and enliven the system. The continuation of summer heat, which is less perceptible than in the southern and middle states, lasts one fourth of the year, and leaves three fourths of continued spring, viz. from October to June

inclusively; during which the weather is incomparably delightful.

It may be justly inferred, from what has already been written upon this climate, that it is not subject to the vicissitudes of the more northern parts of the continent, where the east and north-east winds are so tedious in the spring, and present a continuation of cold and moisture. It cannot be denied, that the effects of climate operate very powerfully upon the character and condition of men, and that a temperate region is preferable to one inflicting such severity as the winters of the north do upon the human frame.

A close observer of the seasons in Florida, in order to prove the purity of the atmosphere, has emphatically stated, that there were not, in 1774, any *westerly winds* during the summer season; and if these do not prevail, there need be no apprehension of epidemics: the northerly winds have a salutary effect. So, in New-York, if after every heavy fall of rain in the summer months, the wind should veer to the north, the local causes of yellow fever would cease to exist, and with them the perpetual controversy as to the origin of malignant fevers.

Thunder storms, accompanied by vivid lightning, which rise generally in the south and south west, are violent and transient, but purify the air in the summer months; and although they make great havoc among the pine trees, do less mischief in this quarter to man or beast than in other parts of the continent. One of the few fatal occurrences cited, is that of Mr. Jesse Fish, Jun. who was found dead in



the fields, with his horse, after a violent storm, which he had endeavoured to avert by an umbrella with brass mounting, which it is confidently believed caused his death.

The fogs and heavy dews known to exist periodically from south and south west winds on the rivers and their immediate banks, create fears in the minds of many; yet it is ascertained beyond doubt, that wherever the sea breeze has free access, these are not prejudicial. Taking into view that St. Augustine and its maritime frontier has for the south the same character for salubrity which is allowed to Rhode Island in the north, the temperate man, whose chance is best in all climates, has a choice in the peninsula. Nor does it prove any thing against the healthiness of the former, that epidemics have prevailed; for the hand of Providence has sometimes permitted them in the latter.

Several authorities conspire to prove, what has been confirmed by the personal observation of the author, that in addition to the common effects of air, in producing mould and rust, loaf sugar has been noticed to become damp in the stores of St. Augustine; but this has never detracted, to his knowledge, from the recognised salubrity of the place.

The cultivation of the country, which is looked to as an early consequence of its cession to the United States, will have the effect of clearing it from the stagnated air in the woods, and from the exhalations arising from the ponds and fresh water marshes, which are most propitious to the culture of rice and indigo; but are said to be injurious to the health of those engaged in them. This, of course, merits the considera-

tion of those who prefer health to wealth. Among other circumstances corroborative of the purity of the atmosphere, may be traced the common way of drying beef and fish in the sun, without salt, and the constant attendance of the innumerable turkey buzzards, who stand ready to remove any carrion or other obnoxious matter; and, in some instances, anticipate the grasp of death to the dying animal, by giving the *coup de grace* to its eyes.

Nothing can contribute more to salubrity than pure and wholesome water, and this is to be found more in the springs than in the wells of St. Augustine, where the water is in some places brackish, and requires filtering.

Although these provinces afford allurements, in point of soil and climate, to the careful and temperate resident, yet the author, whose fortunate resistance for many years to the effects of warm climates may perhaps entitle him to an opinion founded on personal experience, would recommend an occasional tour to the northern states, and thus guard against dysenteries, asthmas, and pleurisies, which sometimes attack those who expose their constitutions too freely to the alternate heats of noon day and dews of midnight.

Mr. Volney, justly celebrated for his writings and travels, as well as for his assiduous researches into the character of the climate of this vast American continent, makes the following remarks:—"Were I obliged," says he, "to select the most favourable spot in America as the place of my abode, my choice would fall upon the southern point of Rhode Island, or the south-west chain in Virginia, between the Roanoke and the Rappahannock. In the western country, I should prefer

to live, a hundred years hence, on the margin of Lake Erie, for then it will not, as now, be infested with fevers. At present, if my choice were guided by the reports of travellers, it would fix upon those highlands of Florida and Georgia which are to windward of the nearest marsh. Intermittents are endemic in all low situations. Thus we see, in all the provinces to the southward, particular places remarkable for a continuance of disorder in them. A remedy is recommended composed of the bark of the root of the *magnolia major*, which the French on the Mississippi substitute in lieu of Jesuit's bark, with Virginia heart, snake root, rue *sal absynth*, and pink root, in good wine, avoiding a too great exposure to the frequent sudden changes of air. They ought to use the cold bath often, wear camphor and garlic in their pockets, not expose themselves to rain, and above all keep warm and dry feet, and if got wet by rain, not to change their clothes too suddenly; never go out of a morning fasting, but before you go to work, business, &c. eat a piece of bread, and drink a glass of the bitter infusion; avoid the night air in the rooms, especially in the bed rooms, which ought never to be on a lower floor, and should be in the eastern parts of the building, exposed to the morning sun. By observing these rules, the constitution of the human body will be less disposed to receive the impressions of a bad air."

The following is an extract of a letter from the late Denys Rolle, Esq. father to the present Lord Rolle, the founder of Rolle's town on the St. Johns, dated Tuderly, 1st September, 1756.

"The enjoyment of the trade wind passing over the peninsula, is not felt elsewhere.

“ This wind I was extremely sensible of in my journey to St. Marks, on the Bay of Mexico, in May, where I came to the high land of the *Latchway*, first Indian town from any settlement, w. n. w. when this wind was rather disagreeably cold in that otherwise warm month. This being the highest land between the two seas, it received less obstruction from the woods : when these are more cleared, every part will enjoy it. Every thing in nature seems to correspond towards the cultivation of the productions of the whole world in some part or other of this happy province, the most precious jewel of his Majesty’s American dominions.”

The following Thermometrical Observations are extracted from Ellicot’s Journal, made at Point Peter, on the St. Mary’s.

[The second column shows the state of the Thermometer at sunrise, the last its range throughout the day.]

1799.

Dec. 15			Cloudy.
16	51	67	Cloudy at P. M. and so all night.
17	57	70	Heavy rain all night.
18	56	64	Cloudy, with rain all P. M. and night.
19	55	69	Heavy fog A. M. flying clouds all day, and rain at night.
20	60	58	Cloudy all day, fine rain A. M. and a heavy rain at night.
21	59	54	P. M. cloudy, with heavy rain most of the day, wind N. W. at night.
22	54	55	Cloudy A. M. and in the evening.
23	54	56	Cloudy all last night, and this day, with fine rain.

Dec. 24	34	54	
25	30	51	
26	41	49	Cloudy all day and night.
27	50	64	
28	80	80	Cloudy A. M.
29	67	63	Heavy rain great part of the day, S. W. wind violent.

1800.

Jan'y 1	28	54	Scattering clouds.
2	54	54	Heavy rain, wind N. E.
3	39	53	
4	36	54	
5	36	36	Cloudy all day.
6	34	61	
7	38	38	Ditto.
8	40	48	
9	38	42	Rain part day, and rain with hail evening.
10	37	40	Snow and hail the whole day.
11	28	40	Snow 5 inches deep.
12	34	67	Cloudy great part of the day.
13	46	57	Cloudy all day.
14	40	62	Do.
15	42	61	Cloudy in the evening.
16	45	67	
17	64	42	Cloudy morning, shower at 11 A. M.
18	38	58	
19	37	54	

The following are Ellicot's observations at Apalachicola.  
1799.

Aug. 23            91   P. M.



Aug. 24	75	91	
25	74	88	
26	76	85	Shower of rain at noon, heavy rain P. M. winds from all quarters.
27	74	96	
28	74	96	The evening distressing, atmosphere,
29	80	93	hazy and suffocating, until 8 o'clock,
30	74	95	when light breeze from E. which cor- rected the atmosphere.
31	76	93	
Sept. 1	74	94	
2	75	90	Cloudy part of the afternoon.
3	73	91	Cloudy great part of the day and night.
4	76	89	Cloudy all the afternoon and night.
5	74	87	Several showers of rain in the course of the day, thundergust P. M.
6	73	89	Sky remarkably blue, fine clear morning.
7	73	86	Shower at day break, cloudy great part of the day, little rain.
8	73	87	Shower at day break and P. M.
9	74	90	Thick fog till 8 A. M.
10	71	82	Foggy.
11	74	91	Cloudy all the afternoon, with a little rain.
12	74	89	Thundergust at noon.
13	76	91	
14	74	91	Cloudy part of the afternoon.
15	72	92	
16	76	96	Ditto.

From the above thermometrical observations, the reader is led to the following conclusions : that the thermometer was

at Point Petre on St. Mary's, from December 14th, 1799, to January 19th, 1800, from 25 44 the lowest, to 67 highest, and on one day, the 28th, at 80.

That from the 23d of August to the 16th of September, 1799, it was at Apalachicola, of parallel latitude with Point Petre, at sunrise, from 71 lowest average, to 82, and from 80 at sunrise to 93 highest.

Some have calculated that the mercury ranges between 84 and 88 degrees in the shade, where a free ventilation exists, and that it never sinks below 30, and that water does not freeze south of 27 and 30 north lat. whereas Mr. Ellicot states, that on his return from his western survey, in West Florida, he observed on the 30th November, 1799, ice formed on the decks of his vessel when in the Florida Keys.

From the information obtained by Mr. Darby on the subject of climate in this country, he says that the thermometer ranges from 78 to 92 in summer, and from 40 to 70 in winter.

In farther illustration of the mildness and uniformity of temperature in the peninsula, it may be satisfactory to look to the observations of professional men of former times, as well as to those of the present day, alike respectable ; of these latter, are the reports from the surgeons of the United States' army, ordered to take constant and regular observations, which Dr. Lovell, the surgeon general, has very judiciously caused to be published, for public benefit, and of which the following is an extract from those taken at *Amelia Island*, in lat. 30 45, long. 81 57 west, where the thermometer stood in the three first months of 1820 :

1820.	Highest degree.			Lowest degree.			Mean temperature.					
	vii	ii	ix	vii	ii	ix	vii		ii		ix	
In January,	62	79	59	35	44	39	51	35	60	83	54	16
In February,	66	78	70	50	59	55	60	51	69	62	64	20
In March,	68	78	70	50	62	55	60	19	71	77	60	70

	Hottest days.		Coldest days.	
In January,	Monday,	19	Wednesday,	12
In February,	Thursday,	21	Tuesday,	1
In March,	Tuesday,	7	Friday,	10

	Winds.									Weather.				
Days in	N	NW	NE	E	SE	S	SW	W	Pre- vailing	fair	clo'dy	rain	snow	Pre- vailing
January,	3	2	15	2	2		5	2	NE	18	7	6		fair
February,	1	3	2	5	6	3	5	4	SE	26	—	3	—	fair
March,		6	8	2	7	1	4	3	NE	23	3	5	—	fair

## TOWNS, RIVERS, LAKES, SOIL, AND PRODUCTIONS.

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The river St. Mary's, which forms at present the northern boundary of East Florida, is navigable for sixty miles by vessels of one hundred and sixty tons.

This fine river, well known by the citizens of the United States, takes its rise in a large swamp, or lake, called Quakaphanake, lying between the Flint and Ochmulgee rivers, and enters by a channel, giving twenty feet at high water, between Cumberland Island, recognised by the handsome seat belonging to the heirs of General Greene, and Amelia Island. It is about a mile in breadth at its mouth; whence it takes a direct course to Point Petre; here it is intersected by Joly and Belle rivers, and assumes, soon after, a southerly bend, extending to within a mile of a well laid-out town of the same name. Afterwards, it takes a serpentine course for several miles, giving rise to a small branch, called Little St. Mary's. It has a current of fine clear water, much admired for its purity and wholesomeness.

The land on each side of this river is of good quality. It is not equal, however, to the tracts farther south for the raising of cotton, rice, and provisions. The pasturage is fine;

and there are some excellent mill seats, which are improved to much advantage by Major Clark and others. Some good crops of black seed cotton have been raised thirty miles up, on fine land, which can be rendered very productive. Forty miles up is the military post of Traders' Hill, or Fort Alert, remarkable for its salubrious situation, and for its having been the barrier to Indian incursions, as well as a check upon the smugglers trading between the American and Spanish territories. This fort was established in 1812, and has been much improved.

The abundance of cane swamp, live oak, and cedar, gives a character to the soil, worthy of attention.

A few miles from Trader's Hill, passes the great road from Fort Barrington to St. Augustine, made in 1765, by the subscription of several public-spirited gentlemen; among whom were Governors Grant and Moultrie, Messrs. Forbes, Fish, Izard, Pinckney, Gerard, Walton, Manigault, Oswald, Huger, Henry, Laurens, Elliot, Murray, and others, names well known throughout America.

South from St. Mary's, is the island of *Amelia*, more known of late years than any other part of Florida, as well to commercial men as to politicians:—To the former, from the access had to it, during the embargo by the United States, in 1803, and the war of 1812, during which there were generally in port upwards of 150 sail of shipping of all nations and flags, carrying on an immense transit trade, more favourable to those concerned in it than honorable to the governments under whose auspices it was fostered:—And to the latter, from its



contiguity to the United States, and serving as a resort for adventurers of every kind, and for every purpose.

From these circumstances arose the town of *Fernandina*. Previous to this it had but a few huts erected about a mile south from the point on the west side. Formerly it was remarkable only for some wells dug by the English, for the purpose of supplying their cruizers with water; which, however, they preferred taking from St. Mary's River, when convenient.

The harbour is spacious, and secure against the eastern gales, and may be rendered effectually so against an enemy in time of war. For this purpose, and that of commerce, as well as from its contiguity to the Bahama passages, it is entitled to much consideration.

The town consists of about forty houses, built of wood, in six streets, regularly intersecting each other at right angles, having rows of trees (*Pride of India*) and a square, with a small fort of eight guns, fronting the water. Several of these houses are two stories high, with galleries, and form a handsome appearance. In the rear, at a distance between the town and sea, is a thick wood of large oak; and s. e. from it is a handsome scite, known as M'Clure's Hill, which, commands the town, and is nearly peninsulated by a marsh. It was in this harbour that the British men of war and large transports rendezvoused for the purpose of evacuating East Florida, in March 1784.

The island is fifteen miles in length, and nearly three in its greatest breadth. It has much good land, well adapted to the culture of cotton.

The planters reside principally on the western skirt of the island, and are doing well, while the inhabitants of the town of Fernandina (about 150 in number) are in a depressed state ; many of them depending upon the bounty of the government of the United States for the means of subsistence, and all looking to the cession of the province with hopes of an ameliorated condition. On the score of health it would be soon improved by draining the ponds in the neighbourhood ; or by making them accessible to the salt water, and influenced by the tides.

The navigation through the Narrows, for vessels drawing more than four feet, is intricate towards *Nassau River*, which lies eighteen miles south of St. Mary's. From the confluence of several small rivers it forms itself into one of considerable depth for twenty-five miles westward, promising at some distance from its mouth, much advantage in excellent lands, with an abundance of pine and water, for lumber cutters and rice planters. Some of these, however, are subject to inundations in wet seasons. It is the only river in the province that runs, like St. Mary's, transversely. The bar at Nassau Inlet has eight feet water at low tide, and separates Amelia from Great and Little Talbot Islands, both small, but fertile. Next to these comes the Island of *Fort George*, named so from a fort being built on it by General Oglethorpe in his attack on Florida. This fine island was once in the possession of John M'Queen, Esq. of Georgia, and afterwards much improved by John Houston M'Intosh, Esq. ; and is now in the possession of — Kingsley, Esq. whose property is much increased in value.

Near this is an eligible spot for a fortification to command the entrance into the St. Johns. This is worthy the attention of government, when it considers the resources the nation will, before long, derive from the settlement of the country to which that river leads.

The *St. John's* is thirty-six miles south of St. Mary's, and is the principal river in East Florida. In point of commercial and agricultural importance, as well as grandeur of scenery, it is likely to become second to none in North America, except the Mississippi. Its source is not exactly ascertained; but no doubt soon will be, by actual survey.

The Indians report, that canoes passed from the Atlantic, by this river, to the Gulf of Mexico, through lakes Dun, George, and Mayaco: should this be incorrect, it would require, at all events, but a small distance of canal to connect that Gulf with the Atlantic. The anchorage on the outside of St. John's bar is good; but the bar is an obstacle to entering the river, which, however, will no doubt be removed, in time, by the ingenuity and industry of its new masters. It lies in lat. 30 17, and is known by the high sand hill on the south cape, called General's Mount. It admits vessels drawing ten feet, and at high water those drawing thirteen feet, and carries them up 150 miles, as far as Lake George. Captain Mulcaster, of the British engineers, says, he sounded the bar himself, and found nine feet at low water. The whole length of the river is computed to be upwards of 300 miles, and it has a great number of tributary streams, many of which may be navigated by small craft.

From the sea this splendid river takes a course westward, alternately presenting along its whole length a variety of bluffs and levels worthy of notice by the traveller as he ascends it. On the north side branches out a creek called *The Sisters*, from two hammocks, or small islands, resembling each other, and so near as to leave a passage only for small vessels. On the south, at a small distance from its mouth, runs the river *Pablo*, by some called *Pablo Creek*, which takes a southern course, parallel with the sea for several miles, when it is intersected by *Diego Plains*. Its communication with *St. Marks*, or the *North River*, might be effected by a ditch, or canal, of five or six miles, thus continuing the conveyance by water from *Charlestown* to *St. Augustine*.

Oak timber, with which this country abounds, has been furnished in considerable quantities from this quarter for the construction of ships for the navy of the United States.

The land in the neighbourhood of *Pablo* is held in such high estimation, that many productive settlements have been made, and are now making. The plantation of *Mr. John Forbes*, on which *Messrs. Fatio and Fleming* now work their hands, and those of *Don Bartolo*, *Messrs. Fitch & Chairs*, and *Mrs. Baker*, are the most conspicuous.

No part of the country comes more generally into notice than this, from its presenting some of the largest settlements on the present route from the United States to the capital of the province.

*Diego Plains* afford the most luxuriant pasture for cattle,

which thrive there wonderfully; the mast for hogs is very abundant, and the wild cabbage is found in immense quantities in the adjoining swamp.

The extensive view of meadow, afforded by the open plains, exhibits a vast expanse of perpetual verdure, interspersed with clusters of small copped trees, surrounding cabbage swamps; the sea in front to the east, and an intermediate line of sand hills in the rear, to the west, treat the eye to the most picturesque prospect imaginable.

On the south side of the St. Johns, a few miles from the sea, is a bluff called by some Oglethorpe's, or Hubert's, on which a small town was settled by the British, in 1779, who were doing considerable business there until the evacuation, when it fell into ruins, from which it has never recovered. On the important subject of settling a town on this river, to become, perhaps, the most commercial, if not the metropolis of the territory, the conflicting interests of speculators and land proprietors will clash so much with the various claimants, that no correct opinion can be formed.

The single hand of government could be applied with more successful effect and general utility in promoting such a desirable object by timely direction, or early arrangement, than the projects of a hundred monopolizing lairds multiplied in a ten-fold degree.

The *Cowford*, so called from the number of cattle which crossed that part of the river, where it is more than a mile wide, comes next into notice. The water is here brackish in dry seasons; but in wet seasons it is drinkable. It is



twenty-eight miles from the bar, and serves to this day as a ferry for the main, called the King's road, from fort Barrington to St. Augustine, which, with little regulation and enterprize, can be made serviceable to the public. As to soil, although sandy, it is here very good. The shores are level and shoal, extending in some places, where it is three miles wide, one or two miles into the river.

In other parts of the river, there are bluffs, from twelve to fifteen feet perpendicular height from the surface. While contemplating the beautiful scenery which the shores of this river present, from the stately appearance of the magnolias, the cypress, the oak, and the pine trees, the appetite may be gratified by the greatest variety of choice fish, with which its waters abound; such as the sheep's-head, mullet, trout, bass, drum, sturgeon, garr, stingrays and cat; fresh water trout are frequently caught near the sea, while higher up the river, by an inadvertent change of position, travellers are regaled with those of the sea. Oysters and shrimps are also in great abundance, near the mouth of the river, and of the most delicious kind; to these should be added the store crab, surpassing the lobster in flavour, delicacy, and substance.

The *Cattle Ford*, says Bartram, has below it a marsh on both sides, with high oak banks. At *William's Point*, out of which issue several little springs, the water is pretty deep. Near these is *Forbes' Bluff*, where a sort of rush grows, to bottom chairs, or to make mats; it is better than the common three square or bull-rush. This bluff has been very productive, being covered with oyster shells, on which the Florida Indians, near the sea coast, chiefly subsisted. He

farther states, that St. Johns is, indeed, a curiosity among rivers. It rises at a small distance from the lagoon, called Indian River, somewhere in, or near, the latitude of 27; perhaps out of Lake *Mayaco*, which, I have reason to believe, really exists, and is the head of the river *St. Lucia*, as I was told by a credible Spanish hunter, who had been carried there by the way of this last river. From its source, it runs through wide extended plains and marshes till near the latitude of 28, where it approaches the lagoon. It then continues its course, with a considerable current, northward, and glides through five great lakes, all of which are very pleasant. Endless orange groves are found here; and, indeed, in all parts of the country. Below these the river grows wider, loses its current, and has in some places none; in others, a retrograde one; and lower down, it runs again in its true direction. The banks are very poor land, and exhibit in a number of places sad monuments of the folly and extravagant ideas of the first European adventurers and schemers, and the villany of their managers. The tide does not affect the river very far up. In many places, some extraordinary springs are found, which, at a small distance from it, on both sides, rush or boil out of the earth, at once becoming navigable for small boats, and from twenty-five to forty yards wide. Their course is seldom half a mile, before they meet the river. Their waters are so clear, as to enable one to see a small piece of money at the depth of ten feet or more. They smell strong of sulphur; and whatever is thrown into them soon becomes encrusted with a white fungous matter, the taste of which is bituminous, and very disagreeable;

they, in my opinion, cause the great cloudings we see on the surface of the water, and make it putrid and unwholesome.

It will be perceptible to the traveller, that the eastern shores of this river exhibit traces of former cultivation, on account of its proximity to civilization on the Atlantic, while the western side exhibits more uniform views of the country in its pristine state of beauty, yet offering proportionate, if not greater, advantages to settlers.

*Picolati*, on the east side of the river, twenty miles from St. Augustine, is remarkable for its ancient fort, built by the Spaniards, with a square tower thirty feet high, and a deep ditch around it, which is now partly filled up. The stone was brought from St. Anastasia Island.

There is also, in continuation of the same route, on the opposite side, Fort *Poppa*, with a shallow intrenchment twenty yards square, and as many from the river. At a small distance back is another turret of the same size, and some groves of orange trees, and oaks of large size.

Farther south is *Charlotia* or *Rollestown*, a village settled by Denny's Rolle, Esq., father to the present Lord Rolle, who, having obtained from the British government a grant of 40,000 acres of the best land he could find in the Floridas, embarked from England, in 1765, with a hundred families, intending to proceed with them to West Florida; but making St. Johns, selected this spot, and Dunn's Lake. His settlement at the former place, after incurring a vast expense, was abandoned, owing to the bad management of his agents.

*Mount Hope*, so called by Mr. John Bartram, is a high shelly bluff on the little lake, near a fine orange grove, afterwards settled as an indigo plantation. He farther says, that from *Mount Royal*, (formerly *Kean's* place,) there is an enchanting prospect of the great Lake George through a grand avenue, as a narrow reach of the river may be termed, widening gradually for about two miles towards its entrance into the lake. Near the landing stands a magnificent Indian mount, and a highway leads from it three fourths of a mile, through an orange and live-oak groves, terminating by one of palms and magnolia, on the verge of an oblong artificial lake. The highway is fifty yards wide.

On approaching the capes you see *Lake George*, a large and beautiful body of water. It is oval in its form, twenty miles long and fifteen wide, and about twenty feet deep, except at the entrance, where the bar has only ten or twelve feet. Here are several small islands, mostly high land, well timbered and fertile : one of them is an entire orange grove, with grand magnolias and palms. On one of them there was, among many curious shrubs, the lantana, of most agreeable scent ; and the whole is ornamented with the most variegated scenery. Higher up the river on the east side, is Little Lake, which is bordered by extensive marshes to the east, and high forests and orange groves on the opposite side.

The settlements, previous to the evacuation by the British, did not extend far up the St. Johns. The most conspicuous of these, not already mentioned, were Mr. Fatio's New Switzerland, Mr. Levett's Julianton, Beresford's, Mr. Marshall's

Satonia, Mr. Penman's Jericho, Gov. Tonym's, Captain Bissett's, Messrs. Egan's, Spalding's, Forbes', Miller's, Box's, Pot's, Gray, and Yellowley's. These are all handsome establishments.

Having, according to the best information in our possession, proceeded as far up the St. Johns as there were plantations known during the last century, it becomes necessary to take the tour of the sea coast, and carry the reader back to the beautiful view which *Diego Plains* afford, on the way from St. Johns to St. Augustine; in pursuing which, you meet with cabbage swamps, and much good land a small distance from these plains, at the head of the North River, where there were some settlements, that formerly produced excellent indigo. This river is navigable for small craft, and would be much improved, as continuing the inland communication by water, if a canal or ditch was cut from it to Pablo Creek, a distance of only five miles. This is an object of vast importance to travellers, as well as to the residents of the country; both would no doubt cheerfully contribute, toward effecting it; and most probably, upon a proper representation of the advantages in a national point of view, the general government would apply a fund for the purpose of completing the chain of internal communication with the southern frontier, which, in case of war, would become highly important. The settlements at present on the road, or those to be seen from the river, are not of much consequence, and offer very little for the agricultural tourist, until you meet with a large tract of low hammock, known as the *Twelve-mile Swamp*, running parallel with the coast about ten miles from St.



Johns, and at the distance of between three and four from the sea. This swamp is of considerable extent, and has been the subject of high estimation, which draining would render of incalculable advantage for planting cotton or the sugar cane, the soil being a vegetable mould in layers of various depths, loosely strewn upon a foundation of clay and marl.

It is common, when travelling near the sea, to hear a hollow sound, proceeding from the footsteps of the horse, which tends to confirm an opinion, in which some indulge, that there are in Florida subterraneous rivers.

A few miles from St. Johns are the remains of Fort Mossa, at which the advanced guard of General Oglethorpe's force, was surprised, by a sortie from the town, and tended much to the discomfiture of that General's projects upon the garrison, which is treated of in another part of these Sketches.

From hence a handsome view of Fort St. Marks, the convent and church, may be had as you approach, either by land or water, the old town of St. Augustine, which comes next under our notice.

*St. Augustine*, the capital of East Florida, is one of the most ancient towns on the continent of North America, and was discovered on the 28th of August, 1564, from whence its name is derived. Don Pedro deValdez and Juan de St. Vicente were four days on the coast after its discovery, looking out by day, and anchoring by night, uncertain by whom it was peopled. On landing, a grand Te Deum was sung, with great solemnity. It lies in lat. 29 45 N. and long. 81 30 W.

with its north-eastern extremity open to the sea, at the distance of three miles from it.

This town, built in the Spanish manner, forms an oblong square, or parallelogram; the streets are regularly laid out; but the buildings have not been put up to conform strictly to that rule. The streets are generally so narrow as to admit with difficulty carriages to pass each other. To make up for this inconvenience, they have a terrace foundation; and being shaded, renders the walking very agreeable. The houses are built generally of a free stone peculiar to the country, which, with the aid of an outer coat of plaister, has a handsome and durable effect. They are only two stories high, of thick walls, with spacious entries, large doors, windows and balconies; and a garden lot to each, most commonly stocked with orange and fig trees, interspersed with grape-vines and flowers.

On entering this old town from the sea, the grandeur of the castle of Fort St. Mark's presents itself, and imposes a degree of respect from travellers, upon seeing a fort, forty feet high, in the modern taste of military architecture, commanding the entrance. It is of a regular quadrangular form, with four bastions, a wide ditch, a covered way, a glacis, a ravelin to defend the gate, places of arms, casemated and bomb-proof, with a water battery next to the sea.

The works are entirely of hewn stone, of a calcareous nature, and peculiar to the country, bronzed and squamated by age, and will, with some American ingenuity, be justly deemed one of the handsomest in the western hemisphere. It mounts sixty guns, of twenty-four pounds, of which sixteen

are brass, and is calculated to contain one thousand men for action; with which, and the courage such a fort should inspire, it is capable of a noble defence, having, in old times, resisted some formidable attacks. It is not liable to be shattered by balls; nor does it expose its defenders to the fatal effects of storm.

From the Fort, southwardly, are the remains of a stone wall, touching its glacis, built to prevent the encroachment of the sea; along this is a very pleasant walk, as far as the market place, which is opposite to the old government house in the centre of the town, and separated by an oblong square, called the parade; on which there is a Roman Catholic church of modern construction, and quite ornamental. In front of this there formerly stood a handsome and spacious edifice, built in modern style, by Lieut. Governor Moultrie, for a State-house, which was not completed. For want of an exterior coat of plaister, it has crumbled to pieces, leaving not a single vestige of its former splendour. The old government house, now much decayed, is occupied as a barrack for the royal artillery. It leaves the marks of a heavy pile of buildings, in the Spanish style, having balconies in front, galleries and areas on both sides, with several irregular additions, well contrived for the climate. Among these was a look-out, built by Governor Grant, on the western summit of the main building, which commanded a full view of the sea coast, and the surrounding country.

The garden attached to the government house is surrounded by a stone wall; it was formerly laid out with great taste,

and stocked with most of the exotic and indigenous plants, common to the tropics and the middle states; such as the pomegranate, plantain, pine apple, papua, olive and sugar cane; which is at once demonstrative of the fertility of the soil, and the mildness of the climate.

From the parade, environed by orange trees, the streets extended southwardly to some large stone buildings, one of which formerly was a Franciscan convent, now converted into a jail; but under the British government it was used as barracks. In addition, a very handsome range, four stories high, was constructed of wood, and of materials brought from New York, and intended for Pensacola; but was detained by Governor Grant. These barracks, at the southern extremity of the peninsula, in which the town is built, formed an elegant appendage to it, but were burnt, and now exhibit only the stacks of chimneys, of which the bricks appear as perfect as they did half a century past, notwithstanding their constant exposure to wind and weather.

In a course westward from these vestiges of royalty, are streets leading to a bridge, formerly of wood, but now of stone, crossing a small creek, running parallel with the sea, on the east side, and St. Sebastians on the west: over this are several valuable and highly improved orange groves, and several redoubts, forming the south and western lines of fortification.

Near this bridge, in the same street with the government house, is the burying ground of the protestants, where stood an episcopal church, with a handsome steeple, of which not a vestige remains.

Before the entry of some of the houses, built by the Spa-

niards, rises a portico of stone arches; the roofs of these are commonly flat. There are nearly one thousand houses of all descriptions in the town, which is about three quarters of a mile in length, and one quarter in breadth. As it is built upon a point of land, it is, in some degree, peninsulated by the conflux of Matanza River, and St. Sebastian's Creek, by which means the egress by land must be by the northern gates, and by a bridge and causeway in a western direction; the whole forms a very picturesque piece of scenery, being surrounded by orange groves and kitchen gardens.

Within the first line was a small settlement of Germans, with a church of their own, upon St. Marks River: within the same line, was an Indian town, with a church also: but it is much to be regretted that nothing of these remains, as they served, if not as temples, certainly as ornamental relics. The governor has given the lands belonging to this township as glebe lands to the parish church, which will no doubt be confirmed by the American government, in its liberal appropriations for religious purposes.

Although there is a great deal of sandy soil in the neighbourhood of St. Augustine, which may give it the appearance of being the worst in the province, yet, it is far from being unproductive; for it bears two crops of Indian corn some years, and garden vegetables always in great perfection: among these is the artichoke. The orange and lemon trees grow here without cultivation, to a larger size, and produce better fruit, than in Spain and Portugal.

The harbour of St. Augustine would be one of the best in America, but for the bar; which, however, admits vessels drawing not



more than six feet with safety. In common with other bars on the eastern shore of East Florida, it is regulated by the winds. A strong west wind will make but six feet, and an east wind 12 feet of water at low tide. It is surrounded by breakers, which are not as dangerous as they appear to be, on account of the bar being short. As the spring tides afford more water, the port is approached with greater safety from March to November, than at other periods of the year, the stream between the Florida coast and the Bahama Islands being very narrow. There is a roadstead on the north side of the bar, with good anchorage for such ships as draw too much water to enter the harbour, which is formed by a neck of land, on the north, and a point of Anastatia Island on the south.

The island of *Anastatia*, opposite St. Augustine, is twenty-two miles in length, and separated from the town by Matanza river, which had an outlet at the southern extremity of the island, near the old fort of that name; but this, report says, is now closed by the sands. This island, known as Fish's Island, from the hospitality of Mr. Jesse Fish, one of the oldest inhabitants of the province, is remarkable for the date and olive trees, the flavour of the oranges, the cultivation of his garden, and for the appearance of the light house, where signals are made, by a company stationed by government, for the information of the inhabitants of St. Augustine. The light house also serves as a land-mark for vessels at sea. In this island is an excellent quarry of free stone, useful for building the houses in town. The stone is a concretion of small shells petrified. It is soft under ground, where it may

be cut to mould, but becomes very hard and durable by being exposed to the air. This island forms the northern boundary of that remarkable kind of stone ; it runs in similar veins southwardly, along the coast of East Florida, spreading not more than three miles in any part.

About ten miles south from St. Augustine, after passing Sebastians, you come to Wood Cutter's Creek ; on the road to which was the handsome stone house and country seat of Lieut. Governor Moultrie, called, from its beautiful scite, *Bella Vista*. The lands at this plantation were highly improved, and consisted of very good swamp and highlands. Next to Wood Cutter's Creek, about twenty miles distant from the town, is Matanza Inlet, always very shoal in its approach to the main land, but abounding in fish, particularly of sheep's head and mullet. From Matanza, by means of rollers, a boat may be hawled over a small space of land into *Halifax River*, which runs, like it, parallel to the sea ; but its source, though certainly not far from St. Johns, is not well ascertained, although the land carriage to it is only four miles. Previous to coming to Musquito Inlet, Tomokee river falls into it : here Governor Moultrie also had a valuable rice plantation ; and Messrs. Bisset, Taylor, Penman, and M'Lean, had lands planted with indigo. Near them, Mr. Oswald, one of the peace makers between the United States and Great Britain, had another valuable establishment, called Mount Oswald ; the sugar cane was tried there, and the soil found most luxuriant and highly productive under the able management of Mr. Anderson, now of Georgetown, South Carolina. This valuable property has

since become Mr. Perpall's, one of the most respectable inhabitants of St. Augustine.

The river, from Mount Oswald, runs in a direct line south to the Pelican Islands, is from one to two miles wide, and navigable for small craft, having from four to five feet water; and from these islands to Mosquito bar along the Halifax, for six miles, it has from eight to ten feet water, the bar having seven feet at low water, and the tide flowing about six feet.

*Hillsborough River*, flowing from the south, and Halifax river from the north, meet, and are both discharged into the sea. It is navigable for ten miles south, and presents at Smyrna a commodious and safe harbour, and is easy of access; the bar has eight feet at low water.

About Musquito Inlet, the country is low, and chiefly salt marsh; the highlands are covered with the cabbage and papau trees, and various tropical plants. Three miles distant from this is the Old Settlement by Dr. Turnbull, who, in 1763, brought out from the Mediterranean 1,500 Minorcans, and with much trouble and expense began to cultivate the cane and the indigo plant; some dissatisfaction prevailed, and these people retired to St. Augustine, where, from habits of industry, they improved the lands near the town, and became easy in their circumstances, and many of them happy and wealthy.

At *New Smyrna*, already mentioned, the remains of the settlement are evident by the stacks of chimneys, some boilers and other traces of the sugar works, and some wells of most excellent water. The old town was most eligibly situated on a high

shelly bluff, having three solid stone wharves, which a little repair would render of immediate service. There appears near this old settlement, a conflux of three rivers: on the north, Halifax; on the south, Hillsborough; and in the centre, running nearly west, Spruce Creek. The land in this quarter has always had the character of being rich, and adapted to the most advantageous culture. It is now owned, as has been stated, by Judge Hull. Messrs. Perpall, M'Hardy, Bethune, Stubbs and others, have plantations contiguous. There is in the rear of the town an extremely valuable hammock of level land, extending itself north and south about six miles in length, and about one half that in width, having an excellent assortment of timber. This part of East Florida will, in all probability, attract the southern planters, whose experiments in cotton have met with such unexampled success in the neighbouring states; and whose resources will enable them to extend their agricultural pursuits to the more fertile tracts which will be found, for the purpose of raising sugar, improving the vine, and of attempting the cultivation of tea, coffee, and cocoa. If these latter can be produced in the North American Continent successfully, how happy must every American feel, in contemplating the advantages of so important a link in the chain of independence, as those luxurious products must afford; and that, in any state of political commotion, they may be derived from their own soil. What is to prevent this, under our liberal and enlightened government, devoted to the happiness of its citizens of every class, without distinction? To the industrious poorer classes, ease and competence can no where be

more readily obtained. Corn, potatoes, and conti, (or arrow-root,) are easily raised; and as to oysters and fish, they are so abundant that, as some writers have termed the Banks of Newfoundland the kingdom of the latter, this may be considered the republic of both. Fish, says Romans, may be taken with pointed sticks in the lagoon of Aise, or Indian River. This river has nothing very remarkable; the tide falls a foot and a half at the bar. It runs parallel with St. Lucia, (and in some parts, within two miles of it,) to latitude 27 20, where there is a mouth, or outlet into the ocean. This mouth can seldom be entered by any vessel that draws above six feet water. Before it, in the sea, are two bars: the inner one has about ten feet water in summer time, the outer one seventeen. The latter is about four miles from land.

The sand before this entrance, Romans says, is a fine white quicksand, of a peculiar nature. He states that he anchored several times within three or four leagues of this mouth, and not above once or twice without having his cable eaten through in the ring of the anchor; sometimes he has preserved the anchor by a single strand only. He had, at various times, lost six or seven anchors, and some large grapples, at this place; yet there is no where any foul ground, or, in other words, rocky bottom, in the vicinity. He supposes that this fine quicksand, having sharp angles, by continual motion, chafes and frets the cable through, which is generally done in less than twenty-four hours. I have been informed, by more recent accounts, that the bar at this entrance has six feet water in winter, and ten feet in summer.



The lands in this quarter have been held in high estimation for cotton, bearing hammock and live oak ; particularly by the surveyors and officers under the British and Spanish governments, who took up considerable quantities.

The period of rendering these lands productive will shortly arrive, when the policy of European governments can no longer prohibit the cultivation of the plants just referred to, on account of its interfering with their parent or insular possessions—when the vine and the olive will also thrive. Hammock lands, of vast extent, and great fertility, are met with from Indian River to the Cape ; particularly about Fresh River ; and there is a tract of it thirty miles long on the banks of the Indian River.

From this mouth of the lagoon an island stretches to about the latitude 26 55, where there is another mouth, or inlet, called *Hobé*, by the Spaniards ; and by the English, *Jupiter*, or *Grenville*. This island is thirty-nine statute miles long. Twenty-four miles from its north end, are several high cliffs, formed of blue stone ; these are the first rocks that lie high out of the water along the American beach. They are placed at about high water mark ; and a small ridge, or reef, runs off, sloping from the northernmost one. About nine miles further, towards *Hobé*, and also at its entrance, there are a number of other ridges, of very solid, hard rock ; all of which, particularly those most to the north, are excellent land-marks for seamen going south. On the beach are always to be found a great number of pieces of Spanish cedar, originally cut for the use of his Catholic Majesty's ship-yards on the windward rivers of Cuba, but are driven, by land floods, into the Baha-

ma channel and Gulf Stream, whence the frequent east winds force them upon soundings, and so on this beach. Very few pieces are found either north or south of this. The island is indented on the west side, almost regularly, into points and bays. Fresh water may be obtained by digging in almost any part of the beach. A few spots of hammock, or upland, are found on this island. During the season, the loggerhead turtles land here in vast multitudes, to lay their eggs; which the bears, led by instinct, or otherwise, dig up. They are so expert at digging, that they sometimes make wells for their supply of water. They sometimes fell the wild pine, which, from its structure, generally contains a considerable quantity of rain water, preserved in a fresh sweet state. So vigilant are the bears, that the turtle seldom leaves her nest above a quarter of an hour before the eggs are eaten. If a traveller chooses any of this provision, he is obliged to watch the coming of the turtles. At times, when we had some of these eggs, I have seen the bears approach to within five or six yards of our camp; but this stretch of boldness generally cost them their lives.

About six miles from the mouth of Hobé on the edge of the sound, in a direction *n. n. w.* is a hill, called the Bleach Yard, from its appearing like white spots. This is a remarkable landmark, and the first of any note on the coast from the hills of Neversink.

From the mouth of the river south, the sound is cut into three branches, by means of two peninsulas of mangroves, divided by their lagoons, from the main island. The branch, which disembogues itself at Hobé, is shallow, and full of oys-

ter banks ; it is about fourteen miles long, and admits vessels drawing five feet water.

This inlet, like others on this coast, is subject to be closed, but is easily opened by a little digging, and thus affords an immediate and serviceable channel ; it was shut for some time previous to 1769, and subsequently open for many years. Fertile land is found in less proportion in the interior of the peninsula south than northerly.

The coast from Hobé to lat. 25 44 is all double land, or narrow necks between the sea, having rivers and lagoons, some of which are fresh, with large bodies of improveable marsh land.

Between Bald Mount and the Bleach Yard a Spanish admiral was in 1775 cast away with fourteen valuable ships. Report says, that after violent storms, pistareens have been frequently found on the beach, which were supposed to be part of their cargo.

As the traveller leaves the parts of the province which were formerly cultivated by the British, uncertainty in the accounts as to the exact state of the interior of the peninsula becomes greater, narrowing towards the southern points, which the Indians represent as impenetrable ; and the surveyors, wreckers, and coasters, had not the means of exploring beyond the borders of the sea coast, and the mouths of rivers. Romans' account, therefore, appears to be stamped with more authenticity than is derived from any other source that has met the public eye. *St. Lucia River* lies, according to Romans, one mile seventy-four chains and seventy links s. w. by s. from the Great Rocks, is fifty-four chains eighty-

nine links wide, and six miles and a quarter N. N. W. from the Bleach Yard. The immense quantity of water coming down this river renders it very often quite fresh, although passing through a sound generally two miles wide.

At the mouth of the river is a bay, into which runs a rivulet from the south, called by Mr. De Brahm, Grenville River. He says, that a tract of land, laid out for Mr. Grenville, is of a singular white sand, which, from being covered with a large growth of all sorts of trees, indicating a fine soil, may be considered a natural curiosity. Mangrove stumps are here seen in fresh water, a circumstance that cannot easily be accounted for.

The importance of this river is described by Romans, in a manuscript in his own hand writing, which I here transcribe :

On Sunday, 21st of May, 1769, at break of day, (being on board the schooner Betsey, on a survey for the General Southern Department,) found ourselves abreast of Fobé Rocks, to us known by the name of Hawlover, and saw the place to be much altered ; it having an outlet, we suggested immediately the sea had broken in ; upon which I went on shore, taking my Spanish Indian with me. On my arrival on shore, I carefully examined every place, but as it seemed to break across the mouth, I thought it of no consequence ; therefore gave no orders for the vessel to stop, and took no instruments in the boat. But I found a clear place to go in at the rocks on the north side, when I went in the boat over five and six feet water : I called it the Swash. I made then a horizontal cross, by which I took the angles as near as

possible, having the course of the south beach for six or eight miles in view, I made that my artificial meridian, knowing the angle is cut with the true one, so making it the fundamental basis of my work; being acquainted with this way, having been necessitated to do so on other occasions, and remembering a hint of Mr. De Brahm's, of his taking the plot of a camp, by help of a folded paper, much in the same manner. I dare say, I guessed within a degree the true position of every angle. In coming out, I found the widest channel was toward the south, and that there was a middle ground. I sounded out this, and found seven and eight feet, and ten to twelve close in, which last depth I found to continue within a boat's length of the beach, which was steep, and so very smooth that any boat may at most times land on it, as I then did, several times, in our very small one, for the purpose of looking for turtle eggs. It was half tide, the day after the spring, and the wind at N. W. Being in the river, I found that the fresh had forced its way out, and not the sea in; which last circumstance I am confirmed in opinion of, as I saw the colour of the water near the very bank to be that of our fresh rivers in this climate; when, as it is well known, that the true colour of our sea water here is a fine Saxon or celandon green, and that of this very place it is so, and so clear we saw the sandy bottom in five fathoms; the whole position and face of the break appeared to me to be from within. Mr. Yonge told me he thought the place to be the identical spot where his camp was pitched in August last, 1768, which year was a most memorable one for rains and



freshes, not only throughout all our western continent, but even in Europe, and perhaps every where else. This circumstance, together with the regular depth of the sea all along near it, cleanness of mouth, and steepness of the beach, makes me believe it will be no easy matter to close it again ; and this may be a good inlet for small vessels ; the river of St. Luz going a great way w. n. w., as the Indians informed me, to the Lake of Mayaco, the place is perhaps worth notice.

This I certify, witness my hand, year and day above written.

(Signed)

R. B. ROMANS, D. S.

I certify to have seen the Inlet above mentioned on the same day as in the above account is mentioned, I being on board of said vessel.

(Signed)

CHARLES YONGE.

About fifty miles north of the southern point of the main land, the coast changes its course from s. s. e. to directly south ; and at the head land, occasioned by this, is a large hard blue rock on the beach, out of which a large stream of fine fresh water issues, gushing directly into the ocean ; there are four little inlets between this rock and latitude 25 35 ; one of these is not always open ; the last is in the north end of the first island, whose south end De Brahm has thought proper to call Cape Florida, although it is by no means a capè, or head land. West from this is the river Rat-tones, being a fine stream, and pretty considerable, with a little good rich soil on its banks, where many tropical plants grow ; at its mouth are the remains of an Indian settlement.

To the southward of this river, is a large body of marsh, through which several rivulets of fine water empty themselves into the ground, back of the keys, which begin here. A man may at this place stand with one foot in fresh, and the other in salt water; nay, when the tide is out, fresh water boils up through the sand. From this river, and marsh, the remainder of the land is a heap of stones and rocks, very sharp, and little water is to be found; there being only a few ponds, and these are dry in a dry season. The only growth is shrubby pine. At Sandy Point, the southern extremity of the peninsula, are large old fields, being the lands formerly planted by Coloosa savages. In latitude 25 20, is a salt lake, and a remarkable isthmus, joining what was formerly Cayo Largo, or long key, to the main. Our researches for a passage west of the keys, have convinced us of its being joined to the main land. From the tapering shape of the continent approaching to the meridional extremity, the ground becomes more strong, and is interspersed with ponds or lakes. In the river Manatee is a considerable fall of rocks fourteen miles from its mouth. Above these falls the banks are very steep; which causes the water to rise about fifty feet above its ordinary surface.

*Lake Mayaco* is said by some to be seventy-five miles in circumference; and by others, forty miles long and twenty-five wide; it lies near the River St. Johns, in a direction south from Lake George. Roman says he was told, by a Spanish pilot and fisherman of good credit, who was taken prisoner by the savages, and carried in a canoe by way of the River *St. Lucia* to their settlements, that on the banks of the Lake, at the disemboguing of the river, there lies a small cedar

island ; and that he saw the mouth of five or six rivers, but could not tell whether falling out of, or into the lake. These were probably some of the many rivers he crossed, in traversing the peninsula ; perhaps the St. Johns, and the river in Charlotte Harbour, originate there. The savages add, that in going far south, they go round a large water emptying itself into the Gulf of Mexico.

It is this Lake, of such vast extent, which has in the opinion of some occasioned the intersected and mangled condition in which the old maps represent the peninsula.

From the growth of the mahogany trees, which are of large size, one of which stands as a prominent beacon, on the western border of this magnificent Lake, and the reddish soil by which it is environed, much importance may be derived, by those who can overcome the aguish and debilitating effects of an atmosphere caused by such a vast body of water, in such a latitude.

The entry into this Lake from the eastward, by the River St. Lucia, and an egress from it, by the Delaware, and other streams westward, combine both agricultural and commercial advantages, which may be readily perceived by those disposed to settle in that quarter ; particularly if it is to form the grand central source of communication between the Atlantic and the Mexican Sea.

It is stated with much confidence, that the waters of the St. Johns River are higher than those of the sea on either side ; and that this vast Lake commands the highest pitch of them, affording rapid currents to both. It is suggested, also, that this Lake derives its vast extent of water from springs, and

a subterranean channel, originating in a fountain in the north; probably in the Alleghany Mountains.

The importance of this part of the country, on a variety of accounts, claims every research which can be made: I shall therefore again recur to Romans, as preferable to more recent accounts; the latter being contradictory.

This southern end is a mere point of marsh, with some broken pine land in it, not much above three quarters of a mile wide, and divides the fresh water of St. John's from the salt of Aisa Hatcha. Imagine then to yourself a country gradually rising into a ridge of highland, very barren, sandy and gravelly, a few places excepted, intersected with abundance of rivulets, and variegated with ponds and lakes, whose banks being in general lined with oak, magnolia, and other trees, exhibiting the most romantic scene imaginable, and you will have a just idea of this place. We frequently meet with spacious savannahs of the high kind. The country is covered with roe deer and turkeys, and the lakes are stocked with fish. It continues in a due west line across the Mexican Gulf to latitude 28, which strikes said Gulf fifteen miles northward of the bay of Spiritu Santo.

In the southern parts of the peninsula, there is some land, which covers a stiff marly kind of clay, laying in some places within half a foot, or a foot of the surface; in most of them it is found at the depth of three, four, or five feet, consequently not hard to come at. This kind of land is often very rocky; but especially from latitude 25 50, southward to the point, where it is a solid rock, a kind of lime stone, and covered every where with innumerable small, loose, and sharp stones.

From the river St. John's, southerly, to the point of the peninsula, are to be seen high pyramidal mounts, with spacious and extensive avenues, leading from them, out of the town, to an artificial lake or pond of water; these were ornaments, or monuments of magnificence, to perpetuate the power and grandeur of the nation, which could not have been an inconsiderable one, and must evidently have been designed for public edifices.

Messrs. De Brahm and Romans, and Dr. Stork, have disagreed in many respects in relation to this country, particularly as to the southern extremity. Dr. Stork states, that the main on the west of Cape River, appears to be all high land, and is chiefly covered with cedar, oak, mulberry, and gum. Whereas Romans declares, that no such river as Cape River exists, which leads to a more probable conclusion, that the country from Indian or Turtle River, towards Cape Florida, has not been much explored, and is supposed to be impassable, from marshes or swamps. It is confidently asserted that the Indians, in coming to the eastern coast to wreck, used to return by paths winding with the Cape.

Without examining into the hypothesis of the Tegesta, it is a natural presumption, that owing to the agitation of the waters, which are driven against the southern extremity with continual violence, it is worn away, and divided into many islands, keys, and rocks, forming those reefs which are called under the general name of Martyrs and Pineriais; but more particularly by the Spaniards under the names of Cayo Largo,



Matacumbe el viejo, Matacumbe el mozo, Bivoras, Sombrero, Looe or Loop, or Soldiers Keys, or La Parida, Samboes, Arena, Marques, Boca Grande, Js. de Mangles, Huesos, Samba, Js. de Pinos, Bohia honda, Tortugas. Of these Cayo Huesos, or West Key, deserves particular notice. It is about seven miles long and two wide, and is sixty miles from the Havana; has a salt-pond, and some high ground calculated for fortifications; is susceptible of productive cultivation, and covered with timber. It has a small settlement. There is good harbour and anchorage for vessels of every class which may approach the beach, and the most ample protection from every wind except s. or s. s. w.; although Romans, who mentions it as another good station for a small frigate, does not recommend it as so advantageous as some of the other islets. He adds, that the keys or markers are a heap of rocks, very few small spots on them being cultivated. Matacombe alone would be worth attention for a settlement; all their productions are tropical; not an oak to be found on any one of them, and pine trees on one only. But this reef and keys may be rendered serviceable in time of war, to any nation well acquainted with them. The reef begins in latitude 25 34, and the channel between it and the islands will admit a vessel drawing sixteen feet water. At the south end of Key Biscayno, in 25 27, according to Ellicot, is a good place for careening craft drawing ten feet. There is an excellent harbor, and good water for use. Even if the regular sources should fail, the rivulets in the grand marsh will supply any quantity for a ship of considerable force; and her tender might here find an excellent station to cruise from, it

being no more than fifteen leagues from the reef to the Bemini, where there is likewise water; and on both shores plenty of fish and turtle. A vessel may lay on either side, in a harbour of ten feet water at least, in safety. It is worthy of notice, that a ship may lie with safety within the reef, on the Florida side: of what consequence this is in a place through which the Spaniards are obliged to send all their treasures, every one may judge. At Cayo Tabona, a large ship, even of sixty-four guns, may ride just within the reef, and her tender can always supply her with water, either from Matacombé or the marsh and key Biscayno. Few vessels can come through the gulf without seeing this place; and it is generally the first land made by every sail after leaving the Cuba shore; Sound Point, or Cape Florida, being just north of it. At this key, which presents a mass of mangroves, there were lately about sixty Indians, and as many runaway negroes, in search of subsistence, and twenty-seven sail of Bahama wreckers.

On the Looe, a frigate is said to have been cast away, from which it is supposed the name is derived; some say its derivation is from Loup, which, in French, signifies wolf.

From the peculiar situation of these keys, and from the consequence attached to them by the Spaniards in their grants of them, little doubt can be entertained that instead of being haunts for Picaroons of all countries, they will be changed into the residence of some industrious people, and become, at no distant period, the Archipelago of the Western World.

Mr. Ellicot, surveyor, in the service of the United States, having been directed to demarcate the boundary line between the United States and the Spanish possessions, in the year

1800, was prevented from performing that duty from Apalachicola by land, owing to the warlike attitude assumed by the Indians, and was therefore obliged to proceed to St. Mary's by water. In doing this he visited the keys, and confirms the reports of the wreckers, and other passengers ; and his observations are deserving of more credit ; as some circumstances always occurred to prevent that faithful survey which the country merits. Under the British government, Mr. De Brahm, who was appointed to inspect the coast, having quarrelled with the governor, did not complete the surveys of the Eastern part ; while Mr. Gauld acknowledged that he was kept in check by the American privateers, of which His Britannic Majesty's light vessels were in constant dread in that quarter. Under these circumstances, Mr. Ellicot's notice of them should be fully appreciated. He says, " we have not at this time one chart of the coast of East Florida, except Mr. Gauld's survey of part of the keys and reef, which is entitled to any confidence. An accurate knowledge of the dangerous shoal off Cape Canaveral is of great consequence to the commercial interests of the United States. The navigation between the Gulf and the Florida Keys has always been considered very dangerous, until Mr. Gauld's survey of the Dry Tortugas, and other keys, to Key Largo, which may be looked upon as one of the most valuable works extant."

These keys and reefs furnish a great number of harbours, calculated as well for merchant vessels as for cruisers, as has been stated particularly of Key Biscayno, situated at the northern entrance of the reef, and capable of commanding the whole coasting trade which takes that passage. The mouth

of Black Cæsar's, near Key Largo, or, as called by some, Black Sarah's Creek, which is only the entrance into an extensive sound, between the keys and the main, furnishes most excellent water. The sides of the channel are almost perpendicular, like those at old Matacombé, and composed of a soft mud.

The writer, in a voyage made in 1803, in the ship *Rufus King*, drifted among these keys, which he cannot but consider the more dangerous, as the currents baffle all calculation. Along the Florida reef, and among the keys, a great abundance and variety of turtle and fish may be taken, such as hog-fish, grunts, yellow tails, black, red, and grey snappers, mullets, bone fish, amber fish, groopers, king fish, silver fish, porgys, turbot, stingrays, black drum, Jew fish, &c.

Beside the general character of these keys, or islands, for the purposes of privateering and turtleing, to which they have been long subservient, they were formerly well timbered with fustic, mahogany, *lignum vitæ*, and brazilletto. But they have been cut and carried off by the wreckers from the Bahamas; who, since the wars have ceased to yield them their usual harvests, have depended for their support, in a great measure, upon this encroachment on the Spanish territory. In addition to this, they receive their turtle from this quarter, having crawls which they occupy periodically, about November, when the turtle approach the Florida shores in immense groups, and become an easy prey to the darts of the turtlers.

Key Biscayno, one of the first on the reef, is near Cape Florida, in latitude 27 37 N. ; it has a few settlers, who cultivate plantains and Indian-corn on the north west side sufficient



for their own consumption, and catch fish in abundance. Such is the rapid and continual growth of corn, that they plant it to meet their immediate wants: grain has been known to be put into the ground on the 16th of September, and grown two feet and a half high by the 7th of October following. At the south end there is an excellent harbour and good water; near it is *Fresh River*, which has six feet water for eight or ten miles. There is good hammock land in the neighbourhood. Old Matacombé is noted for affording a greater quantity of good water than any of the other keys; it is found in wells of about four feet deep. On the north-east side is a beautiful beach, composed of broken shells, which, at a short distance, has the appearance of white sand.

These keys, or islands, under a variety of names, much distorted by geographers, translators and navigators, offer very little more for particular remark than what has been already mentioned; except that Matanza (*slaughter*) is remarkable for the massacre by the Coloosa Indians, the original inhabitants of East Florida, of about three hundred Frenchmen, who had taken refuge there after having been wrecked on the reef; and that many of these reefs are composed of lime stone, or calcareous rocks a few feet above the surface of the water, covered with a thin stratum of earth, bearing many palm trees, and prickly pears or opuntia, producing cochineal.

Cayo Ani, or Sandy Key, having the appearance which its name bears, is little else than a heap of broken shells, with a few bushes scattered over it.

The Tortugas, so called from the number of turtle caught there, are low sandy islands.



Payo Vaca, or Cow Key, is remarkable for having been inhabited by the Coloosa Indians from the Havana.

Near Cape Sable, the southern extremity, is Shark River, called by the Spaniards Rio Carbones, said to be only five leagues from Lake Mayaco, where there is some good land extending to Chatham Bay, which is from Cape Sable to Cape Romans, more than twenty-five leagues, and is renowned for the landing on it of Jean Ponce de Leon, whose name it bears to this day among the Spaniards. This bay receives the waters of several important rivers, viz. Dry River, Young or North River, St. Marie, Delaware or Gallivans, which are said to have their sources in Lake Mayaco or St. Esprit. The tide in this bay, and farther north, rises considerably, and is very rapid. Near the Delaware Sound is an excellent spot for a settlement.

Punta Larga, or Cape Romans, has as fine a harbour as can be, with eleven feet water at the bar, and capable of receiving any number of shipping. The land is of the best quality, having a large proportion of hammock, covered with the finest growth of live oak timber; and the remainder is a sandy loam, calculated for cotton and pasturage.

From thence the coast borders with pine land, to the river Coloosse Hache. Passing Boca Seca in the same direction, you meet with Charlotte Harbour, or Boca Grande, in lat. 26 43 north, long. 82 30 west, about 27 leagues south of Tampa Bay. It has good anchorage within the bar, which has fifteen feet water on it; and is the outlet of Charlotte River, which, in its north-eastern course for several miles diverges into creek Romana or Charlotte, continuing east towards Lake

Mayaco and New Creek, which joins the St. Johns in a more northerly part, nearly intersecting it in a latitude parallel to Sebastian's River, thus presenting a chain for canal communication between the Atlantic and the Mexican seas.

On the coast to Tampa Bay are Rio Penas, or Rocky River, Chain Island, Saraxola Inlet, Palm Island, Sanival or Long Island, and Manatie River ; of all of which the topographical writers appear to have been silent, and the most diligent researches of the author have tended to no other conclusion, than that this part of the country, having had a natural vegetation unmolested for at least a century, partakes, no doubt, with the rest of the province, of all the varieties of timber and soil adapted to the same species of culture and improvement which the enterprise of free Americans will rapidly apply to it.

Mr. Darby, in his Guide to Emigrants, observes, that when he was at the mouth of the Sabine in December, 1812, he had full leisure and means of examining the coast of the Mexican Gulf. He states, that near the mouth of the Sabine and Calcasieu rivers, no timber is found but what is cast on shore by the tides ; and trunks of the largest trees are often found lying upon the strand.

It would appear, he says, from an inspection of a map of the Gulf of Mexico and Carribean sea, that the current flows from the latter into the former, between Cape St. Antoine, and assuming a northern direction, reaches the shore of Florida, between the Apalachicola and Mobile rivers, and then divides, one part traversing the western shore of East Florida, encounters and is carried away by the Gulf Stream,

between Florida Point and the Island of Cuba ; but much the largest mass turns to the west, passes along West Florida, Alabama territory, the state of Mississippi, Louisiana, and the province of Texas, until reaching the bay of St. Joseph, it winds with the coast to the south, along the shores of the vice-royalty of Mexico, and finally, sweeping the bay of Campeachy, and the western and northern shores of Yucatan, meets the current from which it originated.

The following observations on the Gulf Passage have been furnished by Henry Wood, Esq. of New Providence, and are relied upon as accurate.

From the current frequently varying in course as well as rapidity, and the eddy currents likewise various and uncertain, the ablest navigators and pilots are frequently deceived, after passing the Havana, in going northward, and getting up as high as the Pan of Matanzas, from which a departure is generally taken.

The incorrectness of the English charts operate very much to increase the accidents that annually happen in this passage. Romans is esteemed the best, and consequently most in use, but it is in some respects erroneous. The tide of flood sets on the Bahama Bank, and runs very rapidly.

On approaching the Florida side, the eddy currents and tides setting through the different channels in the reefs and inlets are very variable, and frequently enter a greater distance into the gulf than mariners are aware of; so much so, that the most expert of the Bahama pilots are often deceived in the night.—Generally a strong s. w. eddy prevails, and

the transition from the stream to the eddy is sometimes very visible, by causing what those pilots call Rip Raps ; at other times it is not to be discovered. There have been only three vessels lost on the Bahama side, in violent weather ; and there are on an average, not less than eight vessels lost on the Florida side annually ; most of them run ashore in the night in good weather when the captains have reckoned themselves on the Bahama side.

Mr. Clarke observes, this situation is meliorated in winter by the proximity of a gulf on each side ; and in summer, by a regular eddy of the tide winds, the average of heat is made less than in more northern climates, where the trade winds do not reach ; or in more southern climates, when the trade winds have the heats of a lower latitude to contend with. Nor is the average of the cold in winter so great as in the same latitudes, when remote from the influence of gulfs. I suppose that the influence consequent on the neighbourhood of those gulfs is equal, at the northern extremity of the province, to the difference of one degree of latitude more south ; and about three times this quantity at its southern extremity.

I account for this singular eddy, or rather vacation of a part of the trade wind, to which this province is so much indebted, in this way. We find that when a wind meets a river at right angles, it blows directly across ; but when it meets a river at an angle of inclination, it immediately, and in proportion to the acuteness of that angle, leads up or down as the case may be, always showing a disposition to follow the course of the water ; and the effect is increased according to the ve-

locity of the current of the water setting the same way. Thus the trade winds, in their course from east to west, between Cuba and Florida, are in part met by the Keys and Cape of Florida at an angle of inclination of about sixty degrees, and which separating that part from the main current, sets it towards the north ; its disposition to follow the northward sheet of water it has entered, being there aided by the Gulf Stream setting strongly the same way, forms a current north equal in strength to the first propulsion west, and a course northwest becomes established ; which, passing on regularly as it does from the south east, regales Florida, and terminates or dies away from weakness at its northern extremity.

Mr. Ellicot reports, that " Various theories have been devised to account for the phenomenon of the Gulf Stream. By one, the Gulf of Mexico is considered as a great whirlpool, occasioned by the water being thrown into it between the western extremity of the island of Cuba, and Cape Catoch, by the trade winds, and tides, and thrown out by a rotatory motion between East Florida and the island of Cuba, where it meets with the least resistance. By others it has been attributed to the water thrown into the Gulf of Mexico between the west end of Cuba and Cape Catoch, by the trade winds alone, and making its way out through the Gulf of Florida, where it is the least obstructed.

" The latter theory scarcely merits a discussion, for it must be evident that though the winds are for the most part easterly within the torrid zone, yet whenever calms happen in the



West Indies, and south along the coast, which are not uncommon, the water must recede back to restore equilibrium, and not only cease to be pressed into the Gulf of Mexico, but rush out where it had before been pressed in, and an equilibrium take place between the Gulf and the Ocean, which is never the case.

“The first theory appears to be correct in part, for it is impossible upon any principle of hydrostatics, to account for the Gulf Stream without admitting a rotatory motion of the waters; but the centre of this rotatory motion is no more in the Gulf of Mexico, than the earth is in the centre of the solar system, and one is not more absurd than the other. I had an opportunity of examining the coast of the Gulf of Mexico from the outlet of Lake Ponchartrain, to Florida Point, and neither the currents, nor any other appearance, would justify the supposition that the Gulf had any more similitude to a whirlpool, than our lakes which are supplied with water at one place, discharge it at another.

“It will be evident, upon a moment’s reflection, that the vast body of water carried northerly and easterly by the Stream, must in some manner be returned southerly and westerly: if this be taken for granted, it follows of course, that the Atlantic Ocean, or a part of it, must have a rotatory motion about some centre within itself.

“By admitting this circular motion in the water of the Atlantic, though this motion be but small, it will nevertheless, in a great degree, be sufficient to account for the phenomenon of the Gulf Stream.

“ The water in its circular, or rotatory motion, is thrown upon the coast of America a little north of the equator, where, from its centrifugal or projectile force, it becomes a little elevated, and still being carried along the coast northerly and easterly, on which the water continues from the same cause to be thrown, and at length meets with another body somewhat elevated, and upon the same principles carried westerly along the southern coast of the island of Cuba, until at length this column of water so united, and thus set in motion, constantly contracted in width, and proportionably elevated above the true level of the sea, is brought, as it were, to a focus between the western extremity of Cuba and Cape Catoch, where it discharges itself into the Gulf of Mexico, which serves as a great reservoir, and contributes to the uniformity of the Gulf Stream. The water thus thrown into the Gulf of Mexico, issues out between East Florida, and the eastern part of the island of Cuba and the Bahama Banks, where the water of the Ocean is less elevated.

“ The quantity of water thrown into the Gulf of Mexico, is no doubt considerably increased and diminished by the different courses of the winds and calms ; but never so much diminished as to render the velocity of the Gulf Stream inconsiderable ; which would certainly be the consequence if the cause depended immediately on the winds.

“ Whether the general rotatory motion of the water in the Atlantic is effected wholly by the action of the trade winds, or combined with the tides, and other causes, is a subject which yet remains to be determined.”

*Espiritu Santo Tampa*, or *Hillsborough Bay*, is the most spacious bay on the west coast of the peninsula, and is situated in long. 83 west, and lat. 27 36 north, about sixty miles from Lake George. It is held in the highest estimation for its capacity as a naval depot, having twenty-four feet of water, and being easy of access, well calculated to shelter vessels of any size from all winds; it may be justly considered as the key to the navigation of the British and Spanish islands to leeward, while it must, in the event of possession and improvement by the United States, afford protection to her own trade, and be of vital importance to her naval grandeur. These consequences are derived from the necessity under which the fleets of merchantmen in time of war are, of coming through the Gulf of Mexico, and making the Tortugas, thus rendering this depot the Gibraltar of the West, and of incalculable advantage in the hands of an enterprising belligerent, which it is natural for the United States to look to without seeking either for territorial aggrandizement, or extorting from their Spanish neighbours an unwilling allegiance; still a formidable establishment at *Espiritu Santo* may in time have the effect of controlling the power of Spain under any form of government her colonies may adopt, or be subject to. By way of exemplification; it is, for the fleets coming through the leeward passage, such a port of annoyance as is Cape Nichola-Mole for those going from Jamaica to windward, with this difference in favour of *Spiritu Santo*, that the heavy ships must pass it, while those capable of weathering the Mole may, by superior sailing, avail themselves of that passage.

This bay was explored by Captain Braddock, from Virginia, whose surveys in 1744 and 1745 are yet considered, according to Mr. Ellicot, as good as any extant ; who says, farther, that it is laid down in all the charts too far north, by at least fifteen minutes.

The land about the coast of this invaluable bay is very barren, sandy, and low ; and cannot be seen from a ship's deck, when in seven fathoms water. There are several low sandy islands and marshes, covered with mangrove bushes, lying before the main land, which serve as a resort for the greatest number of sea-fowl and fish which it is possible to conceive. You may, at a particular season, load a ship with either, or with eggs, in a short time.

Immense quantities of fish are caught with seines in the summer time by Spanish fishermen for the Havana.

The head of the bay is well adapted for advantageous settlement ; for although the land is chiefly pine, yet the resources of a fine river, which falls into the east branch of it, are well calculated to promote emigration to that quarter.

The following extract of a letter is from one of the surveyors of the coast, sent by the British government :

*Port Royal, Jamaica, 3d June, 1772.*

“ I had only a few days respite at Pensacola, after near six months hard labour last year, on your East Florida coast, when I was obliged to come here, by an order from Sir George Rodney. After a tedious and disagreeable passage, we ar-



rived at Jamaica about the middle of January last, and soon afterwards began to survey the harbours of Port Royal and Kingston, which have afforded work enough ever since, and will take up near two months more, so that I do not expect to see Florida this year.

“I have had a great deal of very fatiguing work since I have been in Jamaica, but, thank God, I am still able to go through with it. I have kept my health in general very well.

“I cannot say that I like Jamaica so well as Florida, barren and sandy as it is called. Captain Cornwallis is just returned here from Pensacola, in the *Gaudaloupe*, who touched at *Spiritu Santo* in his way. This is the second frigate belonging to his Britannic Majesty that has ever been there. I hope a settlement will be made there some time or other. It is a place that deserves to be taken notice of. Last summer we met with three or four Spanish schooners fishing on that coast, where they had large stages erected for curing the fish, which they caught in great plenty, and were to carry to the Havana against Lent. They told me that each schooner made about two thousand dollars a trip. There are six, in all, from the Havana employed on that business. This is an object worth the attention of British subjects.”

If, as is stated, there is on this coast a large quantity of building stone, how propitious this circumstance for erecting fortifications, as necessary at all times for the protection of our western coast and trade, as it is politic, in the event of war.



*Cedar and Anclole* Keys, or three small islands, lie off Clement's Point, admitting craft of ten feet draught. No beach is seen except the two first keys, which appear quite white, and are a short distance from St. Joseph's Bay, one hundred miles south of Apalache, into which bay the river Amajura runs, and nearly interlocks St. Johns. On the banks of this river, in common with others in this quarter, are found much good land according to general report. Romans states, that the Amajura, or some of its branches, is not far from the Manatie; and where he crossed it, there was an extensive piece of excellent land.

This river takes a northern course for some distance, and forks at St. Francisco, where one of its branches runs westwardly, while the other continues its course towards Ockefenoke, and nearly intersects St. Nicholas, a branch of the River St. Johns.

From Suannee River, forming the south-eastern point of Apalachie Bay, the coast takes a course westward, and is lined with cabbage trees as far as the point of Pines, where St. Peter's river falls into the bay. The latter river runs northerly, and forks at the distance of about forty miles; ten from thence is a village of the same name. The coast from St. Peter's to Hatcha Hallowaggy is marshy. The land at the Mickesucki towns are in high estimation, producing corn, and maintaining cattle as fine as any on the continent. Such was the high opinion entertained of them by General Jackson, in the Seminole campaign, that he offered one hundred dollars to an Indian for one of the cows, deliverable in Tennessee.

The river Little St. John, or Suannee, is entitled to especial notice. It is by some termed the pelucid river. Romans states that he was informed by the Indians and traders that it had no branches, or collateral brooks or rivers, tributary to it, but is fed or augmented by great springs, which break out through the banks; and that there was not a creek or rivulet to be seen running on the surface of the ground from the great Alachua Savanna to this river, a distance of above seventy miles; yet, perhaps, no part of the earth affords a greater plenty of pure salubrious water. This singular transparency is the more unaccountable, as the waters in all the flat countries, except this isthmus, are in some degree turgid, and have a dark hue, owing to the annual firing of the forests and plains.

*Apalachicola River*, in 29 42 north lat. and 68 west, forms the western division between the two Provinces of East and West Florida, and in its course northward, becomes that of Georgia and Alabama. It is said to proceed from other rivers, having their origin on the south of the great ridge of hills in the rear of the Carolinas, and is navigable for small vessels. Although a large stream, discharging itself into St. George's sound, near Cape St. Blas, connected with the Chatahouchy and Flint Rivers, it is susceptible of immense advantages to the settlement of the country; which the sale of lands by Messrs. John Forbes & Co. to several enterprising gentlemen will promote in a very rapid degree; the most ample means, and all possible encouragement, being offered by them to settlers. It was on this river that the trade with the Indians

was to have been carried on, by agreement with the Upper and Lower Creeks; and is more calculated for the prosecution of that trade than any other part of the country. Although the bar of Apalachicola River is a plain one, yet the navigation up is difficult in the present unsettled state of the country, owing to the want of pilots, and to the great number of turns it has. Twenty miles from its mouth is Fort Gadsden, formerly the Negro fort, blown up by the gallantry of Colonel Clinch, of the army, and Lieutenants Loomis and Bassett, of the United States' Navy, while attacking it. This fort, which was considered in former times as the most eligible spot for concentrating the forces intended either for offensive or defensive measures against the Indians, or any other Floridians, was used offensively against the United States, during the war of 1812; the notorious Colonels Woodbine and Nichols, having collected large bodies of runaway negroes, and Seminole and Choctaw Indians, at this place, intending them for co-operation with the regular land and naval forces of the British during that war.—It was here that Mr. Loughborough, a midshipman, and three sailors, in the United States' service, were decoyed by some Indians, when in search of water, and scalped by them. By all accounts, three hundred of those misled creatures paid for their temerity by the forfeiture of their lives, which they lost on the explosion of the fort, leaving about twelve survivors to tell the story. (*See Appendix.*)

The land in this neighbourhood is considered poor; but

from ten miles above to the end of the line is a continuation of most excellent land, running along the borders of the river. This is swamp of heavy growth, and not deeper than two miles.

From the circumstance of Flint and Chatahouchy Rivers emptying themselves into the Apalachicola, which, of itself, is very extensive, and has a strong current running down, there is a great swell on the river during December and January, completely inundating the swamp lands ; but it subsides in February, and by the beginning of March is fit for cultivation.

The distance from St. Augustine to St. Marks appears, by an official return to Governor Grant, to be 346 miles—viz.

From St. Augustine to Picolata,	21 miles.
From Picolata to Latchaway,	70
From Latchaway to Little Suanee River,	45
From Little Suanee River to Big Asila River,	50
From Big to Little Asila River,	45
From Little Asila to Cabbage River,	9
From Cabbage River to St. Peter's River,	8
From St. Peter's River to Sinking River,	18
From Sinking River to Grassy River,	15
From Grassy River to Palatchy old fields,	25
From Palatchy old fields to St. Marks,	40
	<hr/>
	346

By another account and route :

From St. Augustine to Picolata,	27
From Picolata to Poppa,	5
From Poppa to Alachana Savanna,	45
From Alachana Savanna to Talahasotché on the Little Suaneé,	75
Down the Suaneé to St. Marks,	30
	<hr/> 180

According to this last route and statement, the width of the Province of East Florida may be computed at 180 miles, while others have stated it at only 160.

Mention is often made of the mountains and old fields of the Apalaches as deserving of notice ; but the character of the former is dubiously stated, unless considered as a continuation of the Blue Ridge, too far distant for present notice, while it is agreed on all hands, that traces of the latter are exhibited to this day, in corn hills, pieces of iron and brass castings, nails, &c. But the general and most fair presumption is, that large tracts have formerly been cleared away by the Spaniards, or Indians, and now go by the name of the old fields. Some of the best land that has been seen is in this neighbourhood, and to the north of Apalachy ; also, about forty miles up the country, near the Indian villages called Miki Suki ; in passing to which, there are several tracts of very good land, covered with oak, hickory, maple, and such other timber as generally grow in a good soil.

*Alachua*, or *Latcahway*, is that part of the province of East Florida, situated in a n. w. direction from St. Augustine,



distant about ninety miles, which has remained constantly in possession of the Indians. The old town, occupied by a powerful tribe of that name, was situated on the most elevated eminence on the savanna, to which the hills descend gradually.

All accounts agreeing so perfectly in extolling the fertility of its soil, the salubrity of its air, the sublimity of its scenery, its abundant supply of cattle, and stock of all kinds, and its general and specific properties for becoming one of the most valuable sections of the territory, that I feel bound to state every information which has come to my knowledge, respecting this terrestrial paradise, and to say, that it is perhaps better calculated than any other part of the country for the establishment of a white population desirous of agricultural pursuits.

Bartram says, The extensive Alachua savanna is a level green plain, above fifteen miles in extent, and over fifty miles in circumference, and scarcely a tree or bush of any kind to be seen on it. It is encircled with high sloping hills, covered with waving forests and fragrant orange groves, rising from an exuberantly fertile soil. The towering magnolia grandiflora, and transcendant palm, stand conspicuous amongst them. At the same time there were seen innumerable droves of cattle. We approached the savanna at the south end, by a narrow isthmus of level ground, open to the light of day, and clear of trees or bushes, and not greatly elevated above the common level; having on our right a spacious meadow embellished with a little lake, one verge of which was not very distant from us; its shore is a moderately high,

circular bank, partly encircling a cove of the pond, in the form of a half moon; the water is clear and deep. At the distance of some hundred yards was a large floating field, if I may so express myself, of the *nymphia nilumbo*, with its golden blossoms waving to and fro on their lofty stems. Beyond these fields of *nymphia*, were spacious plains, encompassed by dark groves, opening to extensive pine forests; other plains still appearing beyond them.

The town of *Cuscowilla*, which is the capital of the Alachua tribe, contains about thirty habitations, each of which contains two houses of nearly the same size, about thirty feet in length, twelve feet wide, and about the same in height.

Such was the opinion entertained of the excellence of the lands in Latchaway, that the *soi disant* patriots from Tennessee were tempted by their high estimation of them to proceed thither in considerable numbers in 1814, when General Harris and his party, looking to a revolution in Florida, selected for themselves about 350,000 acres of the best savanna lands, for which regular surveys and grants were said to have been made; but afterwards abandoned with much reluctance. The vast quantities of live oak and hickory lands in this district, the undulating grounds, the prairies, the rocks, the wells or springs, the ponds, many of them more properly small lakes, and the gradual slope of the hills of Alachua, are prognostics of its early settlement by an industrious and thriving people.

The following account is from a gentleman\* who has re-

\* George I. F. Clarke, Esq.

sided from his infancy in Florida, and possesses more local information respecting it than perhaps any other person.

“ The undefined territory of Alachua lies along the western broadside of the river St. Johns, I suppose about eighty miles wide from east to west, and one hundred and twenty miles long from north to south, and contains immense bodies of the most valuable high lands ; the finest pasturage generally ; and in all parts healthy. To enter into a particular description of this interesting part of the country, would too far exceed my present limits, and indeed might appear exaggerated. I will therefore only state, that hundreds of persons from Tennessee, Kentucky, and Georgia, who have visited that section of East Florida, agree that it is the most eligible back country they have ever seen.”

The relation of Spain with the Aborigines in all her American possessions, has ever been very different from that of Great Britain and of the United States. It has been the policy of the two latter to procure the rights of the natives by conquest or purchase. The Spaniards, on the contrary, obtained a grant from his holiness the Pope to that part of the western world they should discover, for the purpose of extending the catholic religion ; they then made a lodgment on a spot sufficient to build a fort in any province or kingdom on the continent, and uniformly entered into treaties of incorporation with the natives.

But this system has not tended to put the Aborigines out of the way as rapidly as those of conquest or purchase, as will appear by reference to the history of New Spain, where a

great part of the apparent decrease will be found not to be extermination, but amalgamation. Cortez varied the mode of process, but not the principle; for in going direct to the capital of Mexico, and gaining a solid footing, he there carried on the system of incorporation; and there is found the greatest proportion of amalgamation. But where are the tribes that inhabited the immense continent known as the United States?

From the numerous attempts to dispossess the Indians of that invaluable tract, the following deposition, to defeat that object, was taken by one of the judges at St. Augustine, on the 4th of October, 1775, and may throw some light on the various claims to it.

Thomas Grey, formerly an Indian trader of the province of Georgia, declares, that last November or December, Mr. Jonathan Bryan sent for the deponent, and after some difficulty, engaged him to go with him to Latchaway as a linguist, as he, Bryan, was going there to treat with the Indians about land, assuring him, that he would make it worth his while; that his uncle, St. Japhi, attended Mr. Bryan as far as his house; and that after accompanying Mr. Bryan as far as Captain Williams' house, he seemed rather dissatisfied with the intended bargaining about the lands with the Indians, and returned home. Mr. Bryan, Mr. Savory, surveyor, and John Chisolm, surveyor, the deponent, two Indians, and a young man commonly called Sawzan, continued their journey, and arrived at the west point of Latchaway, in about four or five days, where Mr. Bryan, wrote a good deal, and he and the surveyors wrote theirs and deponent's name on red oaks. When



they reached the Cowkeeper's town, they could get no other intelligence from the women and children, than that the Cowkeeper and his men were gone to war ; whence they proceeded to Mr. Spalding's store ; from that to Joseph Grey's plantation, where they saw Okouthly, of whom Mr. Bryan asked, if he and the Latchaway Indians would give him land to erect a town, where large boats and vessels could come to : that he had obtained the consent of the head men of the nation, and that he only wanted theirs.

To which Okouthly replied, that he was now grown old, and had not long to live, and that if the head men of the nation had given him the land, he must have it, and asked Mr. Bryan what land he wanted, and where he meant to settle : To which Mr. Bryan replied, at St. Marks, or Little Suanne, where there was good navigation, and that he meant to settle a town, which the Indians considered to be a large tract of land. That from thence Mr. Bryan and the others above mentioned proceeded to the Indians settled at Black Creek, where they found only Ohalgie, a young Indian, and women and children, (the rest of the Indians being at that time at St. Augustine,) whom he addressed in the same manner as he had done Okouthly, promising to return in two months with presents, and expecting by that time the Cowkeeper would be at home, and that the whole would be finished ; and made him a present of two shirts. He further declares, that he did not see the land surveyors make use of surveying instruments ; but they kept a journal, and that regularly they transferred their memorandums from the horn book to the pocket book ; that in last June, he saw Mr. Bryan,



who informed him that last February, he meant to have carried the presents he intended for the Indians, but that being on St. John's river, he, Bryan, was informed the governor of East Florida meant to apprehend him and distress him, and that he was obliged to return; that Mr. Bryan gave him an order for fifteen pounds sterling for going with him to Latchaway, and requested him, as he intended to go there soon, that he would remember the memorandum he had given him concerning the lands, and communicate it to the Cowkeeper and Latchaway Indians, and try if they could be prevailed upon to give their consent to what the head men of the nation had agreed to, respecting the lands on which he wanted to make a settlement. That about a month ago St. Jago, and another Indian, came to his house, and that his uncle told him he was going to Latchaway to the Cowkeeper and head men with a message from Mr. Bryan, to signify to them that the said Bryan had got the head men of the nation to sign a paper, giving him lands for a settlement; and to sound the Latchaway Indians, if they would join in confirming the deed: which message or talk from Mr. Bryan St. Jago delivered to the Cowkeeper, who would not hear the talk, and said it was false; that he would not believe that the nation would give him the land. He would soon know the truth, as some Indians were soon expected from the nation to visit the governor.

*Talahasochte*, a small Indian town on the old road from St. Augustine to Apalachicola, is on an elevated spot near thirty feet high; having about thirty houses, like Cuscovilla. It bor-

ders on the River Little Suanee, which is remarkable for the transparency of its waters. It is two hundred yards wide opposite the town, and from fifteen to twenty feet deep ; and, like the River St. Mary's, derives its source from Lake Okefonoke. Owing to its meanders, it runs a course of nearly two hundred miles to the sea.

COMMERCE AND MANUFACTURES.

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The commerce of the Floridas, though at present comparatively insignificant, is nevertheless entitled to particular notice, both on account of its former consequence, and the resources which the increase of an industrious people will develop by the cultivation of the soil, as well as by the discovery of new objects of commercial enterprise.

It is said that the want of water on the different bars is an almost insurmountable barrier to the advancement of commerce; this, like the too common representation of the barrenness of the soil, would leave nothing for expectation from those territories, but expense to the nation, and disappointment to individuals.

The futility of the assertions can be established, and numerous other vague reports can be easily controverted, by reference to the accounts of the former productions of the country, and by adverting to the bounteous provisions made by nature, in affording spacious harbours on the western side of the Peninsula; while mechanism and art can, with very little exertion and expense, improve the navigation along the Eastern coast, which is every where accessible to craft drawing eight feet, at St. Mary's eighteen feet, and St. John's twelve feet.

From the subjoined statements, it is evident, that commerce was carried on with Florida, although to a very limited extent, before the American war; during which it increased, until the evacuation placed it in the hands of a government that may be denominated anti-commercial. When the trade was carried on by a few regular traders, the amount of imports and exports to and from Great Britain were,

	<i>Imports.</i>	<i>Exports.</i>
In 1762	£ 9,916	none
1768	32,572	£ 14,078
1773	51,502	7,129
1778	64,165	48,236
1781	16,446	30,715

Exports, generally, from East Florida :

In 1769	6,189 lbs of Indigo, worth 6s 6d to 7s 8d per pound.
1770	8,153
1771	20,063 lbs worth 7s to 11s 8d.
1772	40,000

There was a bounty upon Indigo raised in the province.

In 1770 there were fifty schooners and sloops entered at the custom house of St. Augustine, from the Northern Provinces and West Indies, besides several square rigged vessels in the trade to London and Liverpool.

General imports in 1771 were, 54 pipes Maderia wine, 170 puncheons rum, 1660 barrels of flour, 1000 barrels of beef and pork, 339 firkins of butter, and 11,011 pounds of loaf sugar, in twenty-nine vessels; of which there were from London, 5;

New-York, 7; Charleston, 11; and other places, 6. There were, also, imported into the Province about one thousand negroes, of which one hundred and nineteen were from Africa.

The Indigo received by the Beaufain, in March, 1772, from East Florida, was sold at Garraway's Coffee House; one parcel averaged 7s 11½d, and some belonging to H. Strachey, Esq. M. P. sold for 11s 9d. This circumstance is sufficient to remove all doubts, if any existed, of the superior quality of the Florida indigo: it is said to be equal to the Caraccas Flo-tant.

The annual average of the expenses of East Florida to Great Britain, from 1st January, 1779, to 1st January, 1782, was 122,666*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* sterling, while those of West Florida, for the same period was 404,750*l.* sterling, without including those of the navy or army.

In 1782 there were 20,000 barrels of turpentine shipped from St. Johns by a contractor with the British government, which allowed a bounty of ten shillings sterling per barrel—an amount surpassing the value ordinarily at the place of manufacture. Yet it is sold for exportation in St. Augustine, at thirty-six shillings sterling per barrel, so that every barrel cost at least forty-six shillings sterling at the place of embarkation, besides mercantile profit.

If British enterprize and policy were exerted in promoting the commerce of the Floridas, by offering bounties upon exports and encouragement to settlers, those of Spain have had a contrary effect, as those provinces have remained without either, under the latter government.

The articles of export will be found under the head of



productions. Those of imports may be counted similar to those for the states of Georgia, with the addition of such articles as may be necessary for the culture and manufacture of the tropical productions in a greater extent. To these may be added a very important branch of commerce of both import and export, the produce of the numerous wrecks on the peninsula, which at present affords employ for sixty vessels, and subsistence for at least 500 Bahama fishermen, besides a considerable revenue to that government, and other local advantages to its inhabitants, which to many of them are their chief, if not their only support. Such is their dependence, that the whole population of those islands, said to be 4000 whites and 11,000 blacks, must revert to Florida, unless Cuba should fall into the possession of Great Britain, in which last case, the large slave holders promise themselves the advantages of settlements in that island; an event to which they look with anticipated satisfaction, while sounder politicians consider the inhabitants of Cuba too much enlightened to change the Spanish yoke for that of any other European power; and such has been the calculation, that some of them have deferred availing themselves of the royal *favour* to transport their slaves to Demarara, or other newly acquired colony, under the British dominions, until the fate of Cuba shall be known.

Whether the commercial restrictions imposed by the uniform system of the Spanish government proceeded from errors or defects in the judgment of its leaders, is not material at the present day; but such has been its aversion to any open trade in the colonies, and such the consequent encour-

agement to an illicit one, that, for fear of rendering Florida an avenue for foreigners to its ulterior possessions, or of immediate use to the United States, they have preferred cramping the inhabitants by the enforcement of laws repulsive in fact, although ostensibly for the benefit of both merchant and agriculturalist.

If reference was had to the exports from Florida, during the embargo, non-intercourse, and war of the United States, they would be found of immense value, and of extraordinary amount, by those who were unacquainted with the nature of the smuggling trade, in which the produce of the United States bore a very conspicuous part ; particularly the articles of cotton, rice, flour and tobacco, which were transported coastwise, and passed as the growth of Florida. It would be as fruitless as unimportant to seek for returns of the actual amount ; yet it is upon record,\* that the exports from the United States to Florida, from the 1st October, 1814, to 1st September, 1815, amounted to \$849,341, of which only \$2,379 appear to have been foreign goods ; the remainder consequently domestic produce. Those from October, 1816, to October, 1817, were, domestic \$130,789, foreign \$25,699.

It may be necessary to remark, that as no goods exported to Florida from the United States are entitled to drawback, some foreign goods may have been included in those considered domestic.

A commerce thus established, must be viewed in no other

\* Dr. Seybert.

light than that of a momentary source, dependent upon political events not likely to recur;—at the same time the reader, and those persons proposing to become settlers in the new country, may be assured of the resources of it, as well by a view of the past, as by a comparative estimate of the growing wealth and prosperity of the adjacent states, so assimilated in many respects.

To the articles of manufacture and export, common, as staple commodities, to the neighbouring states, may be added stone, of which there are many quarries of a peculiar quality; and lime, which can be made in this province from the oyster shells, more abundantly, with less expense, and of better quality than elsewhere; and pot and pearl ashes in like manner. The oranges are of all kinds and qualities; the sweet should be wilted and packed as apples for transportation, the sour squeezed into juice, and the peel used as a marmelade, and for medicinal purposes when dried. The flowers can be distilled into an essence equal to otto of roses. Limes and citrons, either green or as preserves; the loblolly bark, for the purposes of tanning, which is here in great quantities, more convenient than oak, possessing a more forcible astringent; palma christi, commonly called castor, and benni oil, known for their medicinal virtues and table properties respectively, may be made in the greatest quantities, at a trifling expense.—The honey of the peninsula has been seen in a crystallized state, almost as white as snow, and of the most delicate flavour.

Among the present articles of export, are the fish species; the turtle and sheepshead, and the roes of the mullet,

which when cured is said to be equal to the caviar of Europe : thus deriving from this piscatory region articles of research for the epicure, and ornamental tortoise shell for the beau monde. Add to these, the alligator skins, peculiarly adapted for boots and shoes.

The trade in peltries was carried on with the Indians formerly, in this province, upon an extensive scale, by Messrs. Panton and Leslie, Spaulding, Kellsull, M'Latchie, Swanson, and M'Gilvray, and Strother; and in West Florida by the former and Messrs. Mather & Morgan. They all withdrew from it at the peace of 1783, except Messrs. Panton, Leslie, and Forbes, who obtained from the Spanish government a special extension of privileges, of which they availed themselves until a late period, having to contend, on the one hand with the rapacity of British cruizers, (although they were licensed by their king and his council,) and on the other, with difficulties incident to a state of dependence upon the favour of the Spanish government, which limited them to two vessels a year at the ports of Pensacola and Mobile, and to articles not of the production of the Spanish colonies, but exempted them from the droit d'aubaine, and the colonial duty of six per cent.

Here the commercial and manufacturing interests will not clash, as in the eastern and populous states, but mutually support each other; as the latter must depend upon the former for their supplies, in exchange for the manufactures, which will be in general of a nature for export, and thus establish a reciprocity of interests, the surest foundation for permanent friendship and advantage.

The jealousy and competition between foreigners and our ship owners, which exists in the trade of the southern states, derives no encouragement from the annexation of the peninsula, in forming the arrondissement of the United States, and leaving no nucleus, or subsidiary, to foment those mercenaries who would barter the undivided moiety of the Union for a license to fish on the banks of Newfoundland, and then surrender (if they could) the remainder, for a participation of the India trade, or of that of the southern states; which last they might, by a more laudable policy, ensure exclusively to themselves.

The trade on the eastern side must be carried on by coasters, fitted out and owned in the north, from the nature of the coast, and other circumstances too obvious to need an enumeration, which that on the west cannot soon interfere with for want of population and settlement, since some time will be required to develop its vast importance in every point of view, by affording to its inhabitants all the necessities and comforts of life, and yielding to the United States and the commercial world its superfluous produce, hitherto unknown as articles of trade.

Such was the languishing state of these Provinces (embracing a thousand miles of sea coast) in point of trade, as well as of agriculture, under the dominion of Spain, that neither were calculated to afford resources to individuals, or revenue to the crown; but, on the contrary, rendered them unproductive to the former, as they have been burdensome to the latter. Since, appropriations from the more wealthy possessions were required to defray the exigencies of govern-



ment ; which were formerly settled by bills, (*liberansas*) on the Havana, in default of dollars in that quarter, when they could be spared. The remittances required were about \$150,000 per annum.

It is proper here to remark that the most efficient revenue afforded to the crown was derived from duties collected at Amelia, during the embargo of 1808, and the war of 1812 ; which, upon a very reduced scale, yielded, it is said, \$100,000.

The articles of trade of which this country can boast may be condensed, with those of the southern states generally, viz. cotton, rice, Indian and Guinea corn, bees and myrtle wax, lumber of all descriptions, and of the best kind, particularly live oak, pine and cypress, peltries and naval stores, cedar and cabbage posts, bark for tanning, alligator skins, stone, lime, oranges, lemons, limes and citrons, in kind, and in juice and preserves, fish and turtle, bear's oil, honey, perfumes, pot and pearl ashes.

In enumerating the articles of trade promising great advantage, it is due to the traders to apprise them of the destructive character of the worms to all vessels trading to the ports where the salt water is predominant ; they should guard against them by means of copper or zinc. Vessels of easy draft of water should be employed until the bars are improved, or become perfectly familiar to the American mariner.

## POPULATION.

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Heterogeneous as the people of this country may be considered, their neighbours, under present circumstances, will naturally be anxious to know who they are, and what they formerly were.

It may fairly be presumed, from the tumuli, and other vestiges, frequently discovered in the Peninsula, that there formerly was an extensive population in this country, whose origin appears to be very uncertain.

In 1763, at the evacuation by the Spaniards, there were, in St. Augustine, three thousand inhabitants. In 1768, it is stated there were, in East Florida, six thousand, not including Indians or troops; and, in 1778, an increase, by emigration from the Carolinas and Georgia, of near seven thousand loyalists, with their slaves.

The Minorcans, brought into the Province by Dr. Turnbull, have in general remained in it, and served, from their regular mode of life, and industrious habits, to increase the population. The families introduced by Mr. Rolle, about four hundred in number, became dissatisfied, and took refuge in the Carolinas; so, also, did the Highlanders, who arrived in 1772, having been prevailed upon by the M'Intosh's to settle in Georgia.

Romans states the population of St. Augustine, in 1775, to have been only one thousand.

The remainder of the Province was always thinly peopled. Among the population of this country, may be fairly rated the Indians, as the immediate descendants of its aborigines; who have been much diminished by frequent wars. Yet it is very certain, that in the statements or estimates of the population of the country, they have not been fairly brought into calculation.

After the evacuation by the British, in 1784, few of the old settlers remained in the province, most of them having emigrated to the neighbouring states, and to the Bahamas and other British possessions in the West Indies; thus leaving the Spaniards to occupy the towns, beyond which they did not venture, except to keep up a semblance of occupancy.—Very shortly after the departure of the English, the Indians came into the neighbourhood of St. Augustine, burnt Bella Vista, the country-seat of Governor Moultrie, and created so much alarm among the Spaniards, as to impede, if not annihilate, the farther progress of cultivation.

Attempts were made, by the governors of the Province, to encourage settlers, by offering lands, but these were fruitless, until some of the inhabitants of the Bahamas, having failed in their efforts to reap even a bare subsistence from those barren rocks which were assigned to them by the British, as an asylum in return for their loyalty, availed themselves of the opportunity of returning, as a dernier resort, to avoid total ruin and starvation, and settled near the Mosquito. But the want of protection from the Spanish government rendered

their settlements alike temporary and unproductive; and those whose property was free from incumbrances removed to the United States, from which, in turn, some of embarrassed circumstances, as well as others, withdrew to Florida, and did much in improving the country, when the revolution in 1812 caused their removal.

The militia in East Florida was about six hundred and fifty strong, in 1817.

The whole population has been variously rated at from eight to ten thousand in the provinces, of which about three thousand are in St. Augustine.

The number of Indians cannot be well ascertained, owing to their distracted and dispersed state. It has been estimated that they have 3,000 warriors, which will be thought inconsiderable by many; but, as they are without leaders, even this calculation cannot be considered accurate.

The present population of the Floridas cannot be rated at more than six thousand of all descriptions, in East Florida, and five thousand in West Florida, according to the best information.

No doubt remains in my mind, that when the population of this country shall have increased by the emigration of our Eastern neighbours, (which there is no doubt it will in a short time,) accompanied by their industry, talents, and economy, the country will be improved to such a degree as to be scarcely recognizable.

The perfidious policy of the regal government of Spain has always been marked by its fixed determination to keep the Americans from its colonies, owing to their great dread

of those principles of liberty so happily diffused throughout the continent of North America ; from this proceeded, not only the aversion to their residence among them, but an absolute order from the crown, prohibiting them from holding lands in Florida, while the British openly and constantly enjoyed that privilege. This fact is established by the grants made to several inhabitants from the Bahama Islands, as well as to others. The day has at length arrived when Spain, conscious of her inability to oppose the tide of liberty, must yield to justice, what she intended only as acts of indulgence for a population of European aristocrats whom she invited in vain to this quarter.

The state of society in this territory, although assimilated, in some respects, to that of Louisiana on its fortunate accession to the American confederacy, presents a novelty of character under still more variegated forms and peculiar circumstances, requiring a wise and perhaps vigorous administration ; one that will encourage an industrious, and keep in check a disorderly population. Some, no doubt, will resort thither, without a respect for either religion or the laws, and others, more from absolute want, than a laudable ambition.

The philanthropic project of civilizing the Indians cannot be too highly commended ; and when it is considered that they are the aborigines of the country, the inducement is enhanced, and the mind is roused to researches for their good qualities. A writer of celebrity has observed, that when an Indian attains a certain degree of civilization, he displays a great facility of apprehension, a judicious mind, a natural logic, and a particular disposition to subtilize, or sever, the



finest differences in the comparison of objects. He reasons coolly and orderly, but he never manifests that versatility of imagination, that glow of sentiment, and that creative and animating art, which characterize the nations of the south of Europe.

Whenever a question as to the Indians arises, it has been too common to contemplate ferocity, and the worst traits which characterize the human heart, and to seek for apologies for what is termed retaliation for atrocities ; as if one evil was a palliation for another. An abhorrence of this race of people may have been tolerated, from political motives, by Europeans ; but surely no well founded reason can be adduced, why the same spirit, so revolting to humanity, should be fostered by the Americans, whose forbearance and liberality are, in many other respects, proverbial, and should be exemplified by acts of benignity and good fellowship worthy of natives of the same soil, and from whom is expected those religious considerations so much and so laudably revered at the present day.

As the welfare of a society depends on the basis of religion, it is so ordered by the great Author of Nature, that the successful establishment of the one shall depend on the existence of the other. It is fully manifested, that the regulations of a community are imperfect without the influence of religion, and that the prosperity of a country must depend, in a great degree, on the moral qualities of its inhabitants. Consequently, it becomes important to encourage some species of people in preference to others,

as far as may be consistent with the true spirit of our republican institutions, which admit of a mixed population, but which may be adapted to the views and circumstances of different sections of the Peninsula.

Let our eastern brethren migrate thither, and be the pioneers of good morals, steady habits, and civilization, gradually adapting them by imperceptible changes to the settlers, who will eventually become useful members of society, and fitted for that species of independence so consonant with the true principles of freedom, and so happily diffused throughout the union.

## AGRICULTURE.

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VARIOUS opinions have been formed as to the fertility of the lands in East Florida, which common report and geographers have too uniformly pronounced to be sand hills, pine barrens, and salt marshes. Nothing but experience can confirm or remove the prejudices arising from such hasty conclusions. By some it is said, that the planters of the southern states will remove their hands, under an expectation that the lands are more calculated for the production of rice, than the Carolinas ; and that they will prefer the more profitable culture of sugar, and the tropical productions, to which the peninsula is more genial, to the trouble and expense of manuring their present exhausted settlements.

The lands in these provinces, intersected in most parts by spacious rivers, creeks, lakes, and ponds, are promiscuously composed of the following kinds :

Those denominated high and low *hammock*, are most esteemed for the more valuable productions, such as cotton, sugar, and corn, and are distinguished by the natural growth of large evergreen oaks, hickory, red bay, magnolia, and cabbage trees ; and in many parts intermixed with orange

groves, springing from a soil composed of a light, and sometimes black mixture of loam and vegetable mould, as superstrata of various depths, having a foundation of marle and clay in undulating layers, the most inexhaustible sources of cultivation. Traces of ancient settlement and population are found in these tracts of land.

*Swamp lands* are distinguished by the growth of the cypress and other large trees in forests, emblems of their fertility and adaptation for rice ; for which cultivation, they require to be drained and divested of the saline particles unfriendly to vegetation.

*Pine lands*, which are more favourable to cultivation and pasturage than those in the neighbouring states, not only on account of the pine trees being more resinous, but by their distance from each other, without any underwood, giving an appearance of open groves, rather than of forests; and thereby affording room for vegetation, which is promoted by the influence of the sun and the circulation of air. Although these are too generally pronounced barren, much good corn has been raised from them, and they are said to be peculiarly adapted to the culture of the grape.

*Salt marsh lands*, generally bordering, with banks of oysters, on the sea coast, afford an abundance of grass, excellent food for horses and cattle. It is also good manure, on an impoverished soil, for raising cotton.

*Prairie or meadow lands* are margined towards the sea by immense quantities of oyster shells, from which, advancing into the country, are often found extensive plains of grass

and cane brakes, on which vast herds of cattle were formerly raised ; they are also well adapted to rice and sugar.

*Sand hills* which run parallel with the sea, afford little more than small shrubbery, saw palmetto, wire grass, and prickly pears, without any other use than as beacons on a low coast to mariners, and as presenting a variety of romantic scenery.

*Palm* or *Date Trees*, (one of which is mentioned as growing on Anastatia or Fish's Island,) grows, in Africa, to the height of sixty, and even one hundred feet, and much resembles the cabbage trees of the country. Its branches attract notice from their beauty and constant rustling, as well as from the peculiarity of the lower branches, which resemble and serve for ladders, and seem designed by nature to ascend the tree. The fruit resembles, in form, the largest acorns, but is covered with a thin semi-transparent yellowish membrane, containing a fine soft saccharine pulp of a somewhat vinous flavour, in which is enclosed an oblong hard kernel. It affords, when fresh, a very wholesome nourishment, and possesses an agreeable taste.

An oil is prepared from the fruit of this tree called palm oil, which is much used as butter and ointment in Africa, from whence it has been transplanted into the West Indies. In Port-au-Prince, the author saw a couple of them, which produced abundantly. Its fruit is said to possess emollient properties, and is frequently applied with success in cases of hæmorrhoids and chilblains. The solitary tree just referred to, bears no fruit, and confirms an opinion pretty well established, that it being



a *planta divecia*, is one of those in which the male and female parts of generation are upon different plants; having therefore no male plants, the flowers of the female were never impregnated with the farina of the male. "There is," says Lee, in his botanical collection from Linnæus, "a male plant of this kind, in a garden at Leipsic, from whence, in April, 1749, a branch of male flowers was procured and suspended over a female one, and the experiment succeeded so well that the palm tree produced more than one hundred perfectly ripe fruit, from which there are already eleven young palm trees. The same experiment being repeated, the tree bare above two thousand ripe fruit.

*The Cinnamon Tree*, or *Laurus Cinnamomum*, is a native of Ceylon; its trunk grows to the height of twenty feet or upwards, and, together with its numerous branches, is covered with a bark which is first green, but turns red before it arrives at perfection. The leaf is longer and narrower than the common bay tree; it does not perfect its seeds in any quantity under six or seven years, when it becomes so plentifully loaded that a single tree is almost sufficient for a colony. It seems to delight in a loose moist soil, and to require a southern aspect; the trees thus planted flourish better than those growing in loam, and not so much exposed to the sun. The seeds are a long time in coming up, and the plants make small progress for the first year or two. The birds appear to be very fond of the berries, and will probably propagate this tree in the same way they do many others. In a short time it will grow spontaneously, or without cultivation.

*Calycanthus Floridus*, a sweet scented shrub, or allspice;

is abundant in the middle and upper country, near low lands, along sandy bluffs; blossoms in April. It is used like the dried and powdered berries of the *laurus benzoin*, or spice wood, which is a tolerable substitute for allspice.

*Annona*, or *Papaw*, (*Triloba*) grows in rich swampy lands of the upper country; its fruit is like a banana, but thicker when ripe; is covered like the banana with a thin dark skin, containing in the inside a rich pulp, tasting like the banana or persimon; in the pulp are a few seeds like those of a persimon.

*The Olive Tree* has already discovered in this country its propensity to become naturalized to it. Its value is too well known to require eulogium or comment; its fruit, in its natural state, possesses an acrid, bitter, and extremely disagreeable taste, which is considerably improved when prepared by an alkaline lessive. The most esteemed are those of Provence, being of a middling size, and preferable to those of Spain. No oil can be compared to that extracted from its fruit. The fragments of the seed fatten poultry; its branches nourish cattle, and its wood is an excellent fuel. This tree is rapidly multiplied by the sprouts that arise from its root; but it cannot bear severe frost. The tree is of a moderate size, generally straight and erect. The bark is smooth when young, but furrowed and scaly when old. The flower-bud consists of one petal; shows itself early; often in April, always in May, and blooms in the end of May and June, according to the climate. The flower rises from the bottom of the leaf, disposed in bunches upon a common peduncle or footstalk;

the roots are branching and horizontal, and very long; the bark is of a yellowish brown, with knobs of a lighter colour than other parts of the root. The roots often branch from the tree above the surface of the ground; it is thought that this peculiarity arises from the earth being carried away by accident, as it is only seen on hilly places. The choice of soil is immaterial for this tree, as it is seen flourishing in rocky, stony, sandy, and volcanic soil. It demands a shelter from the winds of the north, independently of geographical position. It will succeed in any country where the air is of a proper temperature of heat, those trees are found to bear the spray of the sea better than most other sorts. When it is planted in rich moist ground it grows larger, and makes a finer appearance, than when planted in poor land, but the fruit is less esteemed. The chalky ground is esteemed best for it, and the oil which is made from those growing upon that sort of land is much finer, and will keep longer than the other.

A writer in the Edinburgh Review states, that for the purpose of propagating this invaluable plant, the experiment was made of causing a number of turkeys to swallow ripe olives; the dung containing the kernels was collected, and the whole placed in a stratum of earth, and frequently watered. The kernels were found to vegetate, and a number of young plants were produced. In order to produce upon olives an effect similar to that which they experienced from the digestive power of the stomach, a quantity of them was mascerated in an alkaline livium; they were then sown, and olive plants

were produced from them. By the act of digestion the olives were deprived of their natural oil, and the kernels became permeable to the moisture of the earth; and the dung of the birds served for manure.

*Cocoa* is a native tree of the East and West Indies, frequently growing to the height of sixty or seventy feet in the trunk, in a moist, sandy soil, especially near banks of rivers and the sea coast, where it is propagated by planting ripe and fresh nuts, which come up in six weeks or two months. The plant should not exceed thirty-six inches in size when transplanted. The nurseries of cocoa demand an excellent and well prepared soil, where the water does not remain.

*The coffee tree* is a shrub from twelve to eighteen feet high, and originally a native of Arabia, but is now cultivated in Persia, the East and West Indies, the Spanish Main, and several parts of South America. Its ever-green foliage resembles that of the laurel; and at the base of the leaves, appear twice annually, white fragrant flowers, which are succeeded by a fruit resembling cherries, but of an unpleasant sweetish taste, each containing two kernels or berries. They grow in clusters, and when of a deep red colour are gathered, and carried to a mill to be manufactured into coffee beans.

The soil suitable for coffee is to be found within the tropical lines, excepting land composed of hard and cold clay, or light and sandy ground on a bed of marle. It requires, in preference, a soil new and free, little elevated, where the

coolness and the rains moderate the excessive heat of the torrid zone, which would overpower the plant if exposed to all its violence.

The size of the trees is the most certain standard by which to judge of the fertility of the soil. The plantation should not be exposed to the north: this is more necessary, particularly if at a sufficient distance from the sea to be protected from the salt air, which withers the coffee. If it is level, or only in gentle declivities, it should be carefully cleared of the stumps, burning all which the axe cannot reach; the bed of vegetable earth, which is the depository of all the principles of fertility, must be retained.

As coffee grows in the plains of Surinam and Batavia, the lands required for this production may surely be found in the variety of soils afforded in Florida. It requires to be stiff, and so cool in its general tenor, as not to be subject to the scorching heats of the sun; the watery particles of the soil must not be allowed to remain constantly in a state of inundation. A gravelly soil possesses a propitious coolness; even under rocks the roots will find their way in a suitable soil, which is soon discovered by experience. One acre of land, (says Mons. Chazotte,) planted by ranges, and the plants at five feet distant from each other, gives 1764 plants. A man can take care of two acres, which give 3528 plants; each plant may, on an average, yield two pounds or more; but I will reduce it to one pound; therefore, a man will give yearly 3528 lbs. of coffee, which, at 25 cents per pound, produces 882 dollars. There is no tilling or hoeing; the only labour is to prevent grass from growing between the



plants, and the picking up of the fruit, which is the most laborious; otherwise a man could easily take care of five acres of land. It is to be observed, that no crop is to be expected the first and second year; the third year the plant yields a good crop; the fourth, an abundant one, which it will continue to yield every year until the ground is exhausted, and the plant dies. For the two first years of the planting, all kinds of vegetables and corn may be planted between the ranges, and will yield two crops in one year. Cotton should not be planted between the ranges. Wherever the climate is not visited by black frost, the land, either dry or wet, will produce coffee.

*The Sugar Cane*, planted in February, sinks its main root perpendicularly into the ground, and rises from the earth in the beginning of the spring; after having kept it free from weeds, it presents a stalk of seven or eight feet in height, including its leaves. The cane is propagated by itself. When it is cut for the mill, they lop off about one foot from its top for the purpose of planting. The time for planting is according to the order of the seasons when rain may be expected, and the facility of irrigation; for the assistance of water is essential to the germination of the plant. The canes should be planted at different distances, in proportion to the fecundity of the soil; in the poorest land three feet apart, and six feet in the richest. The sugar cane requires a rich soil, and of which the mould is at least one foot in depth. *The cane of Otaheite* ripens in the same season, much sooner than the common cane of the West Indies. It is said, that sugar obtained from the cane of Otaheite contains infinitely less of the essential salt than that

yielded by the ancient cane. Three pounds of the former scarcely sweetens as much as two of the latter.

The rich lands of clay bottom, calculated for sugar, will become more valuable, as the cane proves luxuriant in those parts of the territory which have been neglected, or which have not yielded to experience.

The sugar cane is not liable to the diseases of indigo, nor, like cotton, to be devoured by insects.

If it is determined absolutely to force nature, by establishing on marshy ground a sugar plantation, which will cost immense labour before it becomes productive, prudence and interest requiring that the ground should be previously drained. If the want of a declivity forms an insuperable obstacle, one expedient remains, more tedious, yet still more advantageous to the land : Let the rain water be drawn from all parts, and collected upon the soil intended to be drained ; having deposited the earthy particles with which it was charged, and become clear, it should be released by opening the sluices ; this operation should be repeated according as the rains permit.

This process unites the double advantage of elevating the soil, and of producing a bed of vegetable earth, from which it derives peculiar fecundity. This kind of land is always too vigorous for the sugar cane. The plant acquires an astonishing increase, but is so watery that the most skilful refiner is unable to obtain sugar from it. This defect is corrected by planting the ground with rice for two successive years.

The planting of rice has the singular and double advantage of elevating the land by the stocks it leaves, and of subduing

it by drawing off the subtile juices. When the rice ceases to be productive, the sugar cane replaces it very advantageously. This method of correcting marshy grounds, through the assistance of rain water, is doubly serviceable to the lands in the neighbourhood of the sea, because it frees them at the same time from those saline particles which are unfriendly to vegetation.

On each weeding, attention should be given to cover the young plant with a part of the earth left on the edges of each hole at the time of planting. It ripens according to the season it experiences : rains retard, drought accelerates its maturity. Much depends also on the nature of the soil. When the cane assumes a yellow colour, it is an infallible sign of the good quality of the sugar it contains. It is not thus with the canes of marshy lands and hollows or bottoms ; they retain the green colour whatever may be their age, and thus announce to the refiner the difficulty he will experience in obtaining the sugar. The distance of the joints furnishes also a certain criterion to determine the quality of the cane : in proportion as they are nearer to each other, the plant is inferior. It is of importance in the manufacture of sugar to take the cane at the true point of its maturity. Before this period it will yield much water, and but little sugar.

*The Annato or Roucou*, is a red kind of dye stuff, which gives the first tint to red, blue, yellow, green, brown, and other coloured cloth. The tree which produces it grows in many parts of America. It is about the size of a plumb tree, but much more thick and bushy ; the bark of it is blackish ; the leaves are large, stony, hard, and of a deep green colour.

Twice a year it puts out red or flesh coloured flowers in large bunches, which resemble the flowers of the wild rose or eglantine, to which succeed bunches of pods covered with prickles, like those which grow on the husk or bur of a chestnut, but not quite so large ; these, on being opened, are found full of seed shaped like those of the coriander, and covered with a flesh or carnation-coloured pellicle.

*Arrow-root*, so called by the English ; by the French, *manioc* and *herb au fleche* ; by the Charaibs, *toulola*, and by the Florida Indians, *conti*, grows spontaneously, and in great abundance, in the peninsula : it constitutes a great article of food. The leaves of this plant grow in bunches, and are shaped nearly like those of sweet potatoes. The wood is soft and brittle, and the plant grows much better from slips, than from the seed it produces. The principal root pushes out three or four other roots around it. Independent of those, six or seven more roots issue from the stem, of a size and length proportioned to the age of the tree, and goodness of the soil. The ordinary size of the roots is equal to that of the beet, but sometimes they grow much larger. They are of the consistency of parsnips, and commonly ripen in about eight months. The best is called the *white*, or *osier manioc*, and it is that only which ripens in so short a period. The broad-leaved, red, and other sorts of this plant, require sixteen or eighteen months to bring them to maturity. The manioc is planted in trenches, about two feet and half asunder, and six inches deep.

When the roots are taken up, the bark or skin is scraped off, the same as parsnips are done, and thrown into some

vessel, where they are well washed, and afterwards scraped and grated fine, something like horse-radish. After this it is put into a cylindrical strainer for the purpose of expressing the juice, which is of a poisonous quality ; and the operation of expressing it is much facilitated by the contractile power of the strainer. When the manioc is dry, it is grated and pounded into flour, and from it is made the cassada, which is the bread used by the natives in many parts of America. It is highly necessary to express the juice ; for while that is retained, it proves mortal to man and beast. The nutritive properties of this beautiful plant are well known every where, particularly in the West Indies, where they look to it as provision in the calamitous event of hurricanes, it being exempt from the danger of other plants. Its medicinal virtues are recognized throughout the world, not only from the roots being, as a ptisan, a powerful antidote against the poisoned arrows of the Indians, but from the flour being made into a jelly, much used by infants and for invalids. For more particulars as to this plant, see *Cassava*.

*The Pomegranate* is common in the gardens of this country : it has a short stem rising only four or five feet high, bearing narrow leaves, and minute red blossoms, which are succeeded by its fruit. The fruit of this shrub is agreeable to the palate ; and in common with other sweet summer fruits, allays heat, mitigates thirst, and is mildly aperient. Its rind is powerfully astringent ; on which account it is, together with the bitterish red flowers, occasionally employed in diarrhœas, dysenteries, and other disorders proceeding from debility.

Among other experiments made with different parts of this



tree in dyeing, Bohmer mentions, that from the deciduous leaves, in autumn, when they present a brownish red shade, he obtained by boiling them, a thick, muddy liquor, in which cotton, silk, and woollen cloths, acquired a good French blue colour. These materials had been previously immersed in a solution of green vitriol; and, after becoming dry, were by different trials plunged into vinegar and soap water, neither of which in the least affected their tint, so that it was doubtful whether they were dark blue or black. In Germany, the tanners formerly employed the bark of this tree as a substitute for sumach.

*Cassava*, or *Iatropa Manihot*, *Lin.* a native of South America, eminently deserves to be transplanted to our climate; for it is asserted that one acre of its roots produces a quantity of food equal to that usually obtained from six acres of seed corn. This shrub grows from four to seven feet high, is knotted, covered with an ash coloured bark, and pithy within; its broad, palmated leaves, together with its white and rose coloured blossoms, render it a very beautiful plant. A mild nutritious food is obtained from these roots, in the following manner. Immediately after being gathered, they are washed, and stripped with a knife of their thick rind; the heart, a pulpy mass, either white or yellowish, is repeatedly passed between cylinders, and turned by mill work, till all the juice is expressed. The dry pulp being thus freed from the poisonous juice, is a compound of farina and vegetable fibre, and requires no farther preparation than to be thoroughly dried over a slow fire. In this state it will keep for several months in close vessels; and when wanted,

it may be formed into cakes, by kneading up with water, and baking ; or into pottage, by boiling it with water and a little Cayenne pepper. The pure farina is the tapioca of the shops : it is separated from the fibrous part, by taking a handful of the pulp, after the juice is extracted, and working it in the hand till a thick white cream appears upon the surface : this being scraped off and washed in water, gradually subsides to the bottom, and after pouring off the liquor, the remaining moisture is dissipated over a slow fire, constantly stirring the farina, so that at length it concretes into grains about the size of sago, which become hard by keeping. This is the purest and most nutritive part of the pulp, and forms a very wholesome and palatable food, which, if preserved in a dry place, may be kept for any length of time.

*Mango Tree*, or *Mangofera*, a native of the East Indies, whence it has been imported into the West Indies, where it has been very productive, particularly at Jamaica. This tree attains a considerable size ; its fruit, when fully ripe, is as large as a goose egg, and greatly esteemed both in the East and West Indies, on account of its invigorating odour and resinous substance, which are said to be beneficial in pulmonary complaints. Beneath its rough shell, there grows a kernel similar to that of almonds, and which may be eaten either fresh, or preserved from the expressed juice. The Indians prepare wine from it, and the remainder produces excellent flour. Miller is of opinion, that the stones will not vegetate unless they be planted shortly after the fruit is ripe. He therefore suggests the expedient of importing the young plants from India in boxes filled with earth.

*Vanilla Epidendrum*, of the gynandria and diandria class, is an exotic parasitical plant growing in Mexico, from whence its long slender pods containing numerous black grains are imported into the United States. These seeds are warm and aromatic, possessing an oily taste and a fragrant odour similar to that of the Peruvian balsam. When the fresh pods are opened, they exhale such powerful fragrance as to intoxicate the person opening them.

*Benne Plant*, whose growth is rapid, will admit of an extensive cultivation, the soil and climate being congenial to its production. The seed, bearing a resemblance to pearl barley, contains round grains of an oily substance, and affords luxurious repasts to the blacks, who use them in cakes, and as a pottage, as well as in composition with sugar. It produces one of the best substitutes for olive oil that can be found. This is proved by the Louisianians, who, like their progenitors, prefer oil to butter, particularly in warm climates, and who have made it in such quantities as to export some to the northern states; but they have not thought it worthy of such farther attention as to interfere with the staple commodities of sugar and cotton, and therefore have neglected it. This plant thrives best on the low lands.

The *Sea-side Grape* of East Florida, is of the octandria class, and trigynia order. The tree in the southern regions is large, and sometimes of the first rate. But in the most northern parts it is only a shrub. When large, the caulis is a teretis, bearing its branches ramosissimi. The branches are irregularly articulate. When a shrub, there appears no cau-

lis, the branches shining as if it were immediately from the root; they are hollow and spongy in the heart.

*The Floridian Olea Forma Chrysobalanus, or Chrysobalanus Repentis.* This is a scarce plant, and believed to be peculiar to this province. It is in full flower in May. The flowers are produced on an irregular cyma, divided into lesser cyma almost lastigate; the universal peduncle generally rises at the foot of the petiole, and there directly forms one of its partial cyma, in such a manner that the leaf serves as a sort of improper stipula; or rather the universal peduncle is ramious and the first partial one is axillary. Each partial cyma has a small universal involucre, and each peduncle has a partial one. But the peduncle of the general cyma has none, nor any thing like it, except the abovementioned leaf.

The flowers are of the class icosandria, and order monogynia; the calyx is a proper concave, and its base or receptacle cup is rather offeous, having its segments rifler and quinquefid, the corolla fastened by its unguis. Between the receptacle and the inner side of the perianthum, the corolla is alternate with the perianthium. The filaments are fifteen in number, each having an oval compressed anthera. Each anthera has three cells, and they are all joined, as it were, in one fasciculus perpendicularly over the pistillum; the filaments being inflex, the pistillum is white, and of a conic form, having a globose stigma of a bright colour, and is situate on one side of the germen, and afterwards becomes a drupa of an oval form, somewhat in colour and size like the olive.

This plant is thus described by Pursh, taken from Mich. Fl.

Am. p. 283:—Oblong folius—403 chrysobalanus gen. pl. 850. flowers white in very large panicles. They are generally dioecious; the fruit the size of a common plum. This shrub runs with its branches under ground, without making any fibres for a considerable distance, and its side branches appear from one to two feet above ground, as a small shrub; it might more properly be considered a tree under ground.



## ALPHABETICAL LIST OF TREES, &amp;c. THE GROWTH OF FLORIDA.

Ash, common,	<i>Fraxinus tormentosa.</i>
black,	<i>nigra.</i>
Bay, sweet,	<i>Babrus barbonia.</i>
Beach,	<i>Fagus sylvestris.</i>
Beam, horn,	<i>Carpinus Americana.</i>
Bermudian Mulberry,	<i>Callacapa Americana.</i>
Briar, sensitive,	<i>Nimosa instia.</i>
Buck Eye,	<i>Æsculus flava.</i>
Bud, red,	<i>Cercis Canadensis.</i>
Cabbage Tree,	<i>Palmitto of Walter.</i>
Cane,	<i>Arundo gigantea.</i>
Cassina, yaphon,	<i>Ilex vomitoria.</i>
Cedar, red,	<i>Juniperus Virginiana.</i>
Chestnut,	<i>Fagus Americana.</i>
Cherry, wild,	<i>Cerassus Virginiana.</i>
Chincapin,	<i>Castumea pumila.</i>
China Root,	<i>Smilax China.</i>
Cotton Wood,	<i>Populus deltoides.</i>
Cypress,	<i>Cupressus disthia.</i>
Creepet, or Trumpet,	<i>Begnonia radicara.</i>
Dogwood,	<i>Cornus Florida.</i>
Dock, water,	<i>Nymphia.</i>

Elder-Box,	<i>Acer negundo.</i>
Elm, red,	<i>Ulmus rubra.</i>
mucilaginous,	<i>Americana.</i>
water,	<i>aquatica.</i>
Gum, sweet,	<i>Liquidamber styracistua.</i>
common swamp,	<i>Nyssa integriflora.</i>
Hickory, shell bark,	<i>Juglans squamosa.</i>
black,	<i>laciniosa.</i>
black walnut,	<i>nigra.</i>
Holly,	<i>Ilex opaca.</i>
Jack-Black,	<i>Quercus ferruginea.</i>
Iron-Wood,	<i>Carpinus ostrya.</i>
Laurel, great,	<i>Magnolia grandiflora.</i>
Locust,	<i>Bolina pseudo.</i>
Longmoss,	<i>Tillandsia usencori.</i>
Loblolly, or Water Pine,	<i>Pinus taeda.</i>
Locust, honey,	<i>Gleditsia triacanthos.</i>
Lindon, or Limetree,	<i>Tilia pubescens.</i>
Maple, sugar,	<i>Acer, saccharinum.</i>
water,	<i>negundo.</i>
red,	<i>rubrum.</i>
black sugar,	<i>nigrum.</i>

Mistletoe,	<i>Viscum.</i>
Mulberry,	<i>Morus rubra.</i>
Oak, black,	<i>Quercus nigra.</i>
red,	<i>rubra.</i>
live,	<i>virens.</i>
white,	<i>alba.</i>
Spanish,	<i>falcata.</i>
water,	<i>aquaticus.</i>
chestnut,	<i>prunus.</i>
Pine, pitch,	<i>Pinus rigida.</i>
Persimon,	<i>Diosphorus Virginiana.</i>
Poplar,	<i>Lireodendron tulipera.</i>
Pecan,	<i>Juglans Illinois.</i>
Papaw,	<i>Annona tribola.</i>
Plum, wild,	<i>Prunus Chickasaw.</i>
Pine,	<i>Pinus.</i>
broom,	<i>palaustris.</i>
Palmetto, great,	<i>Corypha.</i>
Passion Flower,	<i>Passiflora incarnata.</i>
Poke,	<i>Phytolacca decadra.</i>
Poison Vine,	<i>Rhus radianus.</i>
Ratapla,	<i>Bignonia catalpha.</i>
Sassafras,	<i>Lauris sassafras.</i>
Sumach Flower,	<i>Rhus.</i>

Sycamore,	<i>Platinus occidentalis.</i>
Spice Wood,	<i>Laurus benzoin.</i>
Tulip Tree,	<i>Lireodendron tulipera.</i>
Tupelo,	<i>Nyssa sylvatica.</i>
Willow, black,	<i>Salix nigra.</i>

## SHRUBS AND PLANTS.

The *grape vine*, in its wild state, is very abundant in the woods, and has been improved. Wine has been made from the grape of tolerable good flavour. The muscatel and imported grapes thrive wonderfully. It is said, that the soil generally used, and which is most productive of the finest wine, is of an inferior quality. (*See Appendix.*)

Cacona, (used as tea,) senna shrub, sarsaparilla, and myrtle, grow in this province, and have the medicinal and other properties ascribed to them: the latter yields a green wax for candles, well known throughout the United States.

The *opuntia*, or prickly pear, affords a handsome fruit, which, although troublesome to gather, is pleasant to the taste when ripe, or as a preserve. It is valuable on account of the cochineal insect, found upon it in great plenty; and yields a scarlet dye, too well known to require other remark, than that it would be highly important to introduce the real cochineal, since doubts are entertained as to the genuineness of those found in this province. Beside the cul-

ture of the cochineal, the tea plant and the barilla, might be made very productive, when under the fostering hand of American ingenuity and enterprise ; and as most of the plants in the province partake of an aromatic and medicinal property, no doubt can be entertained of the growth of the cinnamon and pimento.



## ANIMALS AND INSECTS.

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The *Bear* and *Deer* afford, in the interior parts of this Province, a most abundant supply of fresh meat for the traveller; while their skins serve as articles of export. The buffalo is said to be among the number of wild beasts, but not commonly seen. To these may be added the quadrupeds common to the southern states, such as racoons, opossums, squirrels, lynxes, and wolves, most of which are troublesome to raisers of the smaller live stock.

This Province formerly abounded in large flocks of horned cattle and horses; but since its cession to Spain, it has become quite destitute of both: the frequent depredations of the Indians, of fugitives from different countries, and of the various parties under the specious appellation of patriots, have contributed to this destruction.

Here it may be important to remark, that the race of Spanish horses crossed by the American are considered better calculated for service. Mules are also recommended.—Sheep will furnish excellent mutton in the dry parts of the country, where pasture can be produced divested of the cockspur, which is not only very troublesome, but detrimental to these animals, as they are apt to swallow the burrs. The wool of those far south is apt to become hairy, and unfit

for the purposes of manufacture. Goats would rather impair than improve a country, destined to become the botanical nursery of the United States.

Alligators and Rattlesnakes are numerous ; but though they are held in great dread by the timid, they are inoffensive, unless roused to protect themselves. The Alligator, in particular, must be often awaked from its profound sleep on the banks of the rivers, before it will attack the traveller. Its shell is so impenetrable, that a bullet will not injure it, unless it strikes the head between the eyes. The Rattlesnake, and the tail part of the Alligator, are sometimes eaten by the hungry traveller. The following story is told by Bartram :

“I accompanied my father on a journey into East Florida, to attend a congress that met at Fort Picolata, on the banks of the St. John’s, for the purpose of forming a treaty with the Creek Nation respecting territory. After the Indians, and a detachment from the garrison of St. Augustine, had arrived, and encamped separately, near the fort, some days elapsed before the business of the treaty came on, waiting the arrival of a vessel from St. Augustine, on board of which were the presents for the Indians. My father employed this time of leisure in little excursions round about the fort. One morning, being the day the treaty commenced, I attended him on a botanical excursion. Some time after we had been rambling in a swamp, about a quarter of a mile from the camp, I being ahead a few paces, my father bid me observe a rattlesnake, just before me. I stopped, and saw the monster formed in a high spiral coil, not half his length from my feet ; another step forward would have put my life in his

power, as I must have touched, if not stumbled over him; the fright and perturbation of my spirits at once excited resentment; and at that time I was entirely insensible to gratitude or mercy. I instantly cut off a sapling, and soon despatched him. This serpent was about six feet in length, and as thick as an ordinary man's leg. The rencounter deterred us from proceeding on our researches for that day. So I cut off a long tough withe or vine, which I fastened round the neck of the slain serpent, and dragged him after me, entering the camp with him in triumph; and was soon surrounded by the amazed multitude, both Indians and my countrymen. The adventure soon reached the ears of the commander, who sent an officer to request, that if the snake had not bit himself, he might have him served up for his dinner. I readily delivered up the body of the snake to the cooks; and being that day invited to dine at the governor's table, saw the snake served up in several dishes, Governor Grant being fond of the flesh of the rattlesnake: I tasted it, but could not swallow it. I, however, was sorry that I killed the serpent, after coolly recollecting every circumstance: He certainly had it in his power to kill me almost instantly, and I make no doubt that he was conscious of it. I promised myself that I would never again be accessary to the death of a rattlesnake, which promise I have invariably kept. This dreaded animal is easily killed; a stick no thicker than a man's thumb is sufficient to kill the largest at one stroke, if well directed, either on the head or across the back; nor can they make their escape by running off; indeed, they never attempt it when attacked."

The *Gouffre* is the resident of the pine barrens; it lives principally under ground, except when it wants food and water, and is said to live upon vegetables. The shell is about fifteen inches long and twelve inches wide. It is remarkable for its strength, being able to move without much difficulty upon the ground, with a man standing upon its back. It digs a hole in the ground, the direction of which is a depressed angle of about thirty degrees and ten feet deep. In the bottom a nest of young rattlesnakes is often found in the early part of the summer. The gouffre generally remains sometime at the entrance of the cave, before it ventures abroad, and on the appearance of danger, retreats. It resembles the loggerhead turtle, and brings forth its young in the same way. It shields itself from danger by closing up its shell, and is rarely seen any distance from its den.

Thus far Mr. Brown's Western Gazetteer treats of the gouffre, to which I can only add, that they are very common in Florida, and that they afford a mess, when properly cooked, little inferior to the green turtle, which is also found in great quantities on the more southern coast.

In addition to the gouffre, are several species of tortoise of an amphibious character, affording delicious food.

*Sea Cow*, or *Manate*; this amphibious animal, which is by some said to be the fabulous mermaid of antiquity, has been found in the interior of these provinces in the winter season. Bartram relates, that he saw a part of a skeleton of one, which the Indians had killed some time before.—The grinding teeth were about an inch in diameter, the ribs eighteen inches in length, and two and a half in thick-

ness, bending with a gentle curve ; this bone is esteemed equal to ivory. The flesh of this creature is counted wholesome and pleasant food. The name given it by naturalists is *Trichechus Manatus*, but that by the Indians is one signifying the Big Beaver. There were three of them seen, at one time, in the spring, by a trader from Talahasochte ; they live chiefly on aquatic grass and weeds. They are said to weigh from fifteen hundred to two thousand three hundred pounds.

The *Lizards*, some of which are of the most beautiful green, and from which they change their colour, may therefore be considered surprizing phenomena ; they are perfectly harmless, and are protectors of the gardens against caterpillars and minor insects ; they often become a prey to the chicken and more domestic snakes ; the largest are about seven inches in length, with a large red gill. There is, also, the striped lizard or scorpion ; some of a large size, and of a copper colour.

The *Jigger*, or *Chique*, is a kind of flesh worm, which can be resisted only by the most perfect cleanliness, and frequent use of salt water ; it may therefore be presumed that they are a great annoyance to slaves.



## WEST FLORIDA.

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WEST FLORIDA is in lat. 29 42, and bounded, according to ancient limits, east, by Apalachicola River, south, by the Gulf of Mexico, west, by Lake Ponchartrain and the River Mississippi, and north, by the Mississippi Territory and Tennessee.

The question of boundary, so long and strenuously disputed, may now be considered as settled between the nations of Europe and the United States, the entire sovereignty of these territories being vested in the latter government by the cession. A regard to the rights of individuals is expected from our national legislature, and will doubtless be claimed by many persons whose pretensions are founded upon grants obtained previous to, and during the protracted negotiations between our government and that of Spain.

The northern boundaries of West Florida, according to the commission given to Governor Johnstone, in 1764, on establishing the colony, were fixed and described to be from the junction of the river Yazoo, lying in 32 12 north lat. and from thence in a line due east, to the river Apalachicola; whereas, by the treaty between the United States and Great Britain, the boundary line runs along the middle of the Mississippi to the 31st degree of north lat. and from thence due east to the

Apalachicola ; as is more particularly mentioned in the 6th article of the Treaty of Fontainebleau, 3d November, 1762 :—  
“ With regard to the limits of the British and French territories on the continent of America, it is agreed, that for the future, the confines between the dominions of His Britannic Majesty and His Most Christian Majesty, in that part of the world, shall be irrevocably fixed by a line drawn along the middle of the river Mississippi from the source, as far as the river Iberville, and from thence by a line drawn along the middle of this river, and of the lakes Maurepas and Ponchartrain to the sea ; and to this purpose the Most Christian King cedes in full right and guaranties to his British Majesty the river and port of Mobile, and every part that he possesses, or ought to have possessed, on the left side of the river Mississippi, except the town of New-Orleans, and the island on which it is situated, which shall remain to France. Provided, &c.”

In the report of the commissioners on the part of the United States, Messrs. Madison, Gallatin and Lincoln, on the 10th February, 1803, it is stated, that “ the territory of the United States south of the state of Tennessee extends in breadth 275 miles from the 31st to the 35th degree of north lat. From east to west, its greatest length from the river Chatahouchee to the Mississippi, measures three hundred and eighty miles along the northern boundary of West Florida. The length of its northern boundary, along the state of Tennessee, is not precisely ascertained ; but it is believed that the average length of the whole may, without material error, be

estimated at three hundred miles ; and the contents of the territory at fifty-two millions of acres.

The only portions of that vast extent to which the Indian title has been extinguished are, a tract of about one million and a half of acres, extending along the Mississippi from the mouth of the river Yazoo, outwardly to the Spanish line, and another tract at least equal in extent, and extending between the rivers Pascagoula and Mobile, or Tombigbee, more than fifty miles north of that line.

The view taken of this part of Florida by the French Government, under the Emperor Napoleon, is thus laid down by M. Talleyrand, in his correspondence with President Monroe, then Minister Plenipotentiary to the Courts of France and Spain, who was authorized to treat for the Floridas.

“ All the territories lying on the east of the Mississippi and the River Iberville, and south of the 32d degree of north lat. bears the name of Florida. It has been constantly designated in that way during the time that Spain held it. His Imperial Majesty has moreover authorized me to declare to you, that at the beginning of the year 11, General Bournonville was charged to open a new negotiation with Spain for the acquisition of the Floridas. This project, which has not been followed by any treaty, is proof that France had not acquired, by the treaty retroceding Louisiana, the country east of the Mississippi.”

✱ *Pensacola*, the capital of West Florida, is an old established town, situated on the west side, and in front of the bay of the same name, twenty-five miles long and eight

wide, and with Spiritu Santu, the most spacious and secure against every wind that is in the Gulf of Mexico; remarkable not for its capacity, but for its salubrious character.

It lies in lat. 30 28 N. and lon. 10 w. of Washington; or, according to the more recent observations of Mr. Ellicot, about 30 43 N. and, by his admeasurement from the Mississippi, and traverse of the Conieuch River, about 87° 14' 15" west longitude from Greenwich.

This town is in the form of a parallelogram, or oblong square, having regular and wide streets of sand, with side pavements of brick. It is one mile long, and one quarter wide, at the foot of a hill extending to the rear. It is about thirty-two miles from the sea, having an elegant stone house for the governor, with a tower, and about two hundred private houses, which are in a ruinous condition, being built of wood. It is pleasantly situated, being flanked by two rivulets, which afford an abundant supply of most excellent water. In the centre of the town is a stockade fort, and in front is one of the several wharfs which have been erected; and nearly north, in the rear, are the ruins of an old fort, which, with a marsh interspersed with innumerable springs, separate the town from the highlands. On the skirts are, on the west, dry lands, with low brushwood, then high brushwood and swamp; on the N. E. a burying ground; and on the east, a wet, rushy swamp, bordering northerly with forest, having small underwood; then open pine woods. There were formerly some handsome barracks built by the British, but since burnt. The egress from the town is northerly by a causeway five feet high. There are

several block-houses commanding the principal streets, and to guard against the approaches of the Red Sticks.

The seat of the provincial government of the British was at this place, which, together with the necessary expenditures in the garrison, gave it great advantages in trade. In the estimation of its friends, it promised to become a formidable rival to New-Orleans. But their hopes were blasted; for it was besieged by Don Galvez, in 1781; and, after two months perseverance, General Campbell, with about a thousand effective men, surrendered to a force nearly eight times their number, upon terms of capitulation honourable to both parties; since that period it has remained under the Spanish government, without any other intermission than that which was prescribed by imperious policy during the late wars between the United States and Great Britain and the Seminole Indians, when the American troops under General Jackson obtained a temporary possession.

Although Pensacola stands in a very sandy situation, yet by a little industry it can be made to afford a large supply of vegetables, which, with orange, peach, fig, pomegranate, and other fruit trees, that are produced there, must render it worthy of immediate settlement.

About a mile to the eastward of Pensacola, between it and the English point, is the East Lagoon, which, after turning to the N. W. four or five miles, receives the Six Mile Brook. This is a pretty little winding stream; on the east side of it is an iron mine, where a large natural magnet has been found. There is a fine mineral spring, of the chalybeate kind, near the mouth of the lagoon, of which there are several others in this country.



The following is a picture of British colonial legislation at Pensacola, in January, 1770, drawn by a person of high standing in society there :

“Affairs in our unlucky province have as yet been upon a very unstable footing. Whether this ill fate is still doomed to be our lot, or whether we are about to emerge from such unhappy circumstances, a little time will discover.

“But if you just fancy to yourself a set of sycophants, who after the year '45, in grasping at all the acts of court favour themselves, represented all honest men who stood in their way, or made their baseness known, as *Jacobites*, and you will have some idea of a paltry cabal of West Floridians, who have lately aimed at getting all the little power and prosperity of the province into their own hands, and who have therefore given their opponents the epithet of the Bostonian Liberty Boys.

“Pensacola has been justly famed for vexatious law-suits. It is so contrived indeed, that if a poor man owes but five pounds, and has not got so much ready money, or if he disputes some dollars of imposition, that may be in the account, or if he is guilty of shaking his fist at any rascal that has abused him, he is sure to be prosecuted, and the costs in every suit are about seven pounds sterling. Nay, great struggles have been made to confine all these things, and even the most trivial accounts, to the decision of one single judge, and the pleadings pro and con, as well as the prerequisites consequent thereon, to two attorneys only, who act implicitly as the judge directs; for as the prosecutor generally retains both, it is at the option of the judge, who shall act for the defendant; and to be sure, he will in that case act with vigour.

“This is pretty much our case at present ; the consequences are but too plain. But, as the entire power of making, as well as executing law here, has not as yet got entirely into such hands, a grand push was lately made to pack our assembly, which would have answered that laudable purpose, but it failed, though even supported by certain gentlemen who had fouled their fingers. Two of the intended members were therefore made counsellors, together with one of the prime ministers to the late worthy Lieut. Governor, who was the object, or rather the tool, in whose name all these manœuvres were carried on. He was his majesty’s representative, and therefore must be supported ; yet he, and these honourable gentlemen, have since been disgracefully dismissed. Do his friends in your side of the country now make their brag of these things, or do they deny the alliance ? that is most probable : however, it is well known here, that by the help of certain persons not among us, he did some of these gentlemen very material services. Poor creature ! the thousand dollars which he charged for the repairs of the government house, was not the only thing by which John Bull was most scandalously imposed on, though I believe it was the principal article which his honour pocketed.

“I have known this province for little more than four years, yet I could name to you a set of men who may brag of one governor resigned, one horsewhipped, and one whom they led by the nose, and supported while it suited their purpose, and then betrayed him. What the next turn of affairs will be, God knows. But these are disagreeable subjects, and I shall leave them only with this observation, that

it is ten to one, whether what I now write you, does not fall into some of their hands ; for the practice of opening and detaining letters is very common here ; nor is it even looked upon as disgraceful, but on the contrary is laughed at, or applauded as a piece of dexterous policy ;—but none of those people can ever expect to see any favourable picture of themselves. I think it is immaterial, to say any thing of the performance of William Stork—M. D. only according to our West Florida reading : this title is a modern dentist. As for myself, it is said, I study law too much ; that is, I am able to discover when a lawyer would pass his own *ipse dixit* upon us for the laws of our country, and when the Georgia forms are like to be crammed down our throats, though contrary to the express statutes of Great Britain, since his majesty has always declared that our laws shall be as nearly agreeable to them as may be.”

The above exhibit became the subject of remonstrance from the inhabitants to the British ministry, who complained also to them of the governor and his proceedings ; but they were treated with utter disregard.

The only traces of commerce to be discovered among this anti-commercial people, consisted in the peltries obtained from the Indians by the house of Panton, Leslie, and Forbes, under licenses from the government ; in a few boards, shingles, and corn, transported to the Havana ; and in a miserable coasting trade through Lake Ponchartrain with New-Orleans, from whence, and Mobile, were derived their principal supplies of foreign goods.

The prospect of an extensive trade with the Spaniards induced many people to settle in this town, which they did at a great expense; their expectations, however, were thwarted, as their trade, which was carried on under Spanish colours, and promised great advantages, was entirely destroyed by the British cruisers.

The principal effort, at the present period, will be more particularly employed upon the natural productions of the country, consisting of sugar, indigo, cotton, rice, hemp, tobacco, and lumber, which, with the Indian trade, will afford ample profits, until a more liberal policy shall extend them to our southern neighbours; whom it is more profitable to receive with their dollars in our ports, than to furnish with goods conveyed to them in our vessels. This, for obvious reasons, is very generally understood.

In Maryland and Virginia, where the heats are greater, and the soil moist, especially on lands not cleared, we find agues, fevers, and fluxes, very distressing to strangers; though the natives in general are pretty healthy, and sometimes long-lived. In South Carolina, we find these diseases much more obstinate, acute and violent. In that state, especially in the months of July and August, during the growth of the rice, the fevers which attack strangers are very anomalous, not remitting or intermitting soon, but partaking much of the nature of those which are so fatal to the newly arrived Europeans in the West India climates. The same may be said of Georgia and East Florida; during these two months, the diseases of strangers approach still nearer to those of the West India Islands. At Pensacola, where the

soil is sandy and quite barren, the English have suffered much by sickness ; some, for want of vegetables, died of the scurvy, but a far greater part of fevers. The excessive heat of the weather has sometimes produced, in this place, a severe fever, similar to the Yellow Fever. This, in the year 1765, proved very fatal to a regiment of soldiers sent from England unseasoned to such climates, they having been landed there in the height of the sickly season. It raged chiefly in the fort, where the air in the soldiers' barracks was extremely sultry and unhealthy ; the sea-breeze being shut out by the walls of the fort. And it is worthy of remark, that during the fatal rage of this fever at Pensacola, those that lived on board the ships in the harbour escaped it. Pensacola, however, is of late, esteemed more healthy than Mobile, where intermitting fevers prevail in the months of July, August, and September.





## APPENDIX.

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*Extracts from the definitive Treaty concluded between England and France, Nov. 3d, 1762.*

Art. 6. In order to re-establish peace on the most solid and lasting foundations, and to remove for ever every subject of dispute with regard to the limits of the British and French territories on the continent of America, it is agreed, that for the future the confines between the dominions of his Britannic Majesty, and those of his most Christian Majesty in that part of the world, shall be irrevocably fixed by a line drawn along the middle of the river Mississippi, from the source as far as the Iberville, and from thence by a line drawn along the middle of this river and of the lakes Maurepas and Ponchartrain to the sea ; and to this purpose the most Christian King cedes in full right, and guaranties to his Britannic Majesty, the river and port of Mobile, and every thing that he possesses or ought to have possessed on the left side of the river Mississippi, except the town of New Orleans and the Island on which it is situated, which shall remain to France ; provided that the navigation of the river Mississippi shall be equally free as well to the subjects of Great Britain as to those of France, in its whole length and breadth, from its source to the sea ; and that part expressly which is between the said island of New Orleans and the right bank of that river, as well as the passage both in and out of its mouth. It is further stipulated, that the vessels belonging to

the subjects of either nation, shall not be stopped, visited, or subject to the payment of any duty whatever.

Art. 19th. His Catholic Majesty cedes and guaranties in full right to his Britannic Majesty, all that Spain possesses on the continent of North America, to the east or to the south east of the river Mississippi ; and his Britannic Majesty agrees to grant to the inhabitants of this country, above ceded, the liberty of the Catholic religion. He will, in consequence give the most exact and the most effectual orders, that his new Roman Catholic subjects may profess the worship of their religion, according to the rites of the Roman church, as far as the laws of Great Britain permit. His Britannic Majesty further agrees, that the Spanish inhabitants, or others, who would have been subjects to the Catholic King, in the said countries, may retire in all safety and freedom, &c.

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*Extract from Governor Grant's Proclamation, dated St. Augustine, 7th October, 1763.*

And whereas, it may greatly contribute to the speedy settling of this His Majesty's province, to inform all persons of the healthiness, soil, and productions thereof, I do in this proclamation, further publish and make known, that the former inhabitants lived to great ages. His Majesty's troops, since their taking possession of it, have enjoyed an uninterrupted state of good health. Fevers, which are so common during the autumn in other parts of America, are unknown here. The winter is so remarkably temperate, that vegetables of all kinds are raised during that season without any art. The soil on the coast is in general sandy, but productive with proper cultivation. The lands are rich and fertile in the interior parts of the province, and on the sides of the rivers,

which are numerous. Fruits and grain may be raised with little labor : the late inhabitants had often two crops of Indian corn in one year, and the breeder here will be under no necessity of laying up fodder for the winter, for there is at all times sufficient pasture to maintain his cattle.

The indigo plant remains unhurt for several years, and may be cut four times in a season. Wild indigo is found here in great abundance, which, with proper cultivation, is esteemed in the French islands to be the best. From the great luxuriance of all the West India weeds found in the southern parts of this province, it is not to be doubted but that all the fruits and productions of the West Indies may be raised here. Oranges, limes, lemons, and other fruits, grow spontaneously over the country. This province abounds with mahogany, and all kind of lumber for transportation or ship building, and the conveyance of the commodities will be attended with little expense, as there is water carriage every where.

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*Extract from Governor Tonym's Proclamation, Nov. 1775.*

The climate of this country is healthy, as is proved by the circumstance, that many of the Spaniards lived here to a comfortable old age ; and from the establishment of the civil government of the colony under the crown of Great Britain, his Majesty's subjects have enjoyed a state of good health, which is particularly manifest from the returns of his Majesty's troops, in garrison at St. Augustine.

The climate is sufficiently cold in winter to brace up the constitution after it has been relaxed by the summer heats, which are greatly mitigated in their effects by a regular sea breeze. Several kinds of grain and vegetables may be cultivated here with success in the winter ; and Indian corn, rice.

indigo, cotton and sugar-cane in the summer season. If it be thought too expensive, or the seasons should be too precarious to cultivate the cane in sufficient abundance to produce sugar and rum for exportation, the planter may at small expense and labour, obtain a supply of these articles for his family. The climate and soil are peculiarly favourable to the growth of the indigo plant, from which the planters have manufactured indigo superior to any made in the British colonies of North America. The country contains excellent pasture land, suited to cattle of every description, preventing by its natural productiveness the necessity of cultivating the artificial grasses; and the mildness of the climate renders the laying up of dry fodder unnecessary.

The whole country is conveniently intersected with navigable rivers, plentifully stored with fish; the banks of these rivers are covered with large oaks, and various species of wood, fit for the building of ships and houses, and for staves, and other articles, suited to the West India market, and an easy and rapid conveyance is afforded by the respective streams to their different ports.

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*The Definitive Treaty of Peace and Friendship, between His Britannic Majesty and the King of Spain, signed at Versailles, the 3d day of September, 1783.*

In the name of the Most Holy and Undivided Trinity, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! So be it. Be it known to all those whom it shall or may in any manner concern. The Most Serene and Most Potent Prince, George the Third, by the Grace of God, King of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, Duke of Brunswick and Lunenbourg, Arch-Treasurer and Elector of the Holy Roman Empire, &c., and the Most Serene and Most Potent Prince, Charles the Third, by the Grace of



God, King of Spain, and of the Indies, &c. being equally desirous to put an end to the war, which for several years past afflicted their respective dominions, accepted the offer which their Majesties the Emperor of the Romans, and the Empress of all the Russias, made to them, of their interposition, and of their mediation : but their Britannic and Catholic Majesties, animated with a mutual desire of accelerating the re-establishment of Peace, communicated to each other their laudable intention ; which Heaven so far blessed, that they proceeded to lay the foundations of peace, by signing Preliminary Articles at Versailles, the 20th of January, in the present year. Their said Majesties, the King of Great Britain, and the Catholic King thinking it incumbent upon them to give their Imperial Majesties a signal proof of their gratitude for the generous offer of their mediation, invited them, in concert, to concur in the completion of the great and salutary work of peace, by taking part, as mediators, in the Definitive Treaty to be concluded between their Britannic and Catholic Majesties. Their said Imperial Majesties having readily accepted that invitation, they have named, as their representatives, viz. His Majesty, the Emperor of the Romans, the most Illustrious and most Excellent Lord Florimond, Count Mercy-Argenteau, Viscount of Loo, Baron of Crichegnee, Knight of the Golden Fleece, Chamberlain, actual Privy Councillor of State to his Imperial and Royal Apostolic Majesty, and his Ambassador to his most Christian Majesty ; and her Majesty the Empress of all the Russias, the most Illustrious and most Excellent Lord, Prince Iwan Bariantinskoy, Lieutenant-General of the Forces of her Imperial Majesty of all the Russias, Knight of the Order of St. Anne and of the Swedish Sword, and Minister Plenipotentiary to his most Christian Majesty, and the Lord Arcadi de Marcoff, Councillor of State to her Imperial Majesty of all the Russias, and her Minister Plenipotentiary to his most Christian Majesty. In consequence, their said Majesties, the

King of Great Britain, and the most Christian King have named and constituted for their Plenipotentiaries, charged with the concluding and signing of the Definitive Treaty of Peace, viz. the King of Great Britain, the most Illustrious and most Excellent Lord George, Duke and Earl of Manchester, Viscount Mandeville, Baron of Kimbolton, Lord Lieutenant and Custos Rotulorum of the county of Huntingdon, actual Privy Councillor to his Britannic Majesty, and his Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to his most Christian Majesty; and the Catholic King, the most Illustrious and most Excellent Lord Peter Paul Abarca de Bolea Ximenes d'Urrea, &c. Count of Aranda and Castel Florido, Marquis of Torres, of Villanan and Rupit, Viscount of Rueda and Yoch, Baron of the Baronies of Gavin, Sietamo, Clamosa, Eripol, Trazmoz, La Mata de Castil-Viejo, Antillon, La Almolda, Cortes, Jorva, St. Genis, Rabovillet, Arcau and Ste. Colome de Farnes, Lord of the Tenance and Honour of Alcalaten, the Valley of Rodellar, the Castles and Towns of Maella, Mesones, Tiurana, and Villa Plana, Taradel and Viladrau, &c. Rico-Hombre in Arragon, by descent, Grandee in Spain of the First Class, Knight of the Order of the Golden Fleece, and of that of the Holy Ghost, Gentleman of the King's Chamber in Employment, Captain General of his Forces, and his Ambassador to the most Christian King: who, after having exchanged their respective full powers, have agreed upon the following articles:

Art. I. There shall be a Christian, universal, and perpetual peace, as well by sea as by land, and a sincere and constant friendship shall be re-established, between their Britan-  
nic and Catholic Majesties, and between their heirs and successors, kingdoms, dominions, provinces, countries, subjects, and vassals, of what quality or condition soever they be, without exception either of places or persons; so that the high contracting parties shall give the greatest attention to the maintaining between themselves and their said dominions and

subjects, this reciprocal friendship and intercourse, without permitting hereafter, on either part, any kind of hostilities to be committed, either by sea or by land, for any cause or under any pretence whatsoever: and they shall carefully avoid, for the future, every thing which might prejudice the union happily re-established, endeavouring, on the contrary, to procure reciprocally for each other, on every occasion, whatever may contribute to their mutual glory, interest, and advantage, without giving any assistance or protection, directly or indirectly, to those who would do any injury to either of the high contracting parties. There shall be a general oblivion and amnesty of every thing which may have been done or committed, before or since the commencement of the war which is just ended.

Art. II. The treaties of Westphalia, of 1648; those of Madrid, of 1667, and of 1670; those of Peace and of Commerce of Utrecht, of 1713; that of Baden, of 1714; of Madrid, of 1715; of Seville, of 1729; the definitive treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, of 1748; the treaty of Madrid, of 1750; and the definitive treaty of Paris, of 1763, serve as a basis and foundation to the peace, and to the present Treaty; and for this purpose, they are all renewed and confirmed, in the best form, as well as all the treaties in general which subsisted between the high contracting parties before the war, and particularly all those which are specified and renewed in the aforesaid definitive treaty of Paris, in the best form, and as if they were herein inserted word for word; so that they are to be exactly observed for the future in their full tenor, and religiously executed, by both parties, in all the points which shall not be derogated from by the present treaty of peace.

Art. III. All the prisoners taken on either side, as well by land as by sea, and the hostages carried away or given, during the war, and to this day, shall be restored, without ransom, in six weeks at latest, to be computed from the day of the exchange of the present treaty; each Crown respectively dis-

charging the advances which shall have been made for the subsistence and maintenance of their prisoners, by the Sovereign of the country where they shall have been detained, according to the receipts, attested accounts, and other authentic vouchers, which shall be furnished on each side : and sureties shall be reciprocally given for the payment of the debts which the prisoners may have contracted in the countries where they may have been detained, until their entire release. And all ships, as well men of war as merchant ships, which may have been taken since the expiration of the terms agreed upon for the cessation of hostilities by sea, shall likewise be restored *bona fide*, with all their crews and cargoes. And the execution of this article shall be proceeded upon immediately after the exchange of the ratifications of this treaty.

Art. IV. The King of Great Britain cedes, in full right, to his Catholic Majesty, the island of Minorca : Provided that the same stipulations inserted in the following article shall take place in favour of the British subjects, with regard to the above-mentioned island.

Art. V. His Britannic Majesty likewise cedes and guaranties, in full right to his Catholic Majesty, East Florida, as also West Florida. His Catholic Majesty agrees that the British inhabitants, or others who may have been subjects of the King of Great Britain in the said countries, may retire in full security and liberty, where they shall think proper, and may sell their estates, and remove their effects, as well as their persons, without being restrained in their emigration, under any pretence whatsoever, except on account of debts, or criminal prosecutions ; the term limited for this emigration being fixed to the space of eighteen months, to be computed from the day of the exchange of the ratifications of the present Treaty ; but if, from the value of the possessions of the English proprietors, they should not be able to dispose of them within the said term, then his Catholic Majesty shall grant



them a prolongation proportioned to that end. It is further stipulated, that his Britannic Majesty shall have the power of removing from East Florida all the effects which may belong to him, whether artillery, or other matters.

Art. VI. The intention of the two high contracting parties being to prevent, as much as possible, all the causes of complaint and misunderstanding heretofore occasioned by the cutting of wood for dying, or logwood ; and several English settlements having been formed and extended, under that pretence, upon the Spanish continent ; it is expressly agreed, that his Britannic Majesty's subjects shall have the right of cutting, loading, and carrying away, logwood, in the district lying between the rivers Wallis, or Bellize, and Rio Hondo, taking the course of the said two rivers for unalterable boundaries, so as that the navigation of them be common to both nations, to wit, by the river Wallis or Bellize, from the sea, ascending as far as opposite to a lake or inlet which runs into the land, and forms an isthmus, or neck, with another similar inlet, which comes from the side of Rio-Nuevo, or New River, so that the line of separation shall pass strait across the said isthmus, and meet another lake formed by the water of Rio-Nuevo, or New River, at its current. The said line shall continue with the course of Rio-Nuevo, descending as far as opposite to a river, the source of which is marked, in the map, between Rio-Nuevo and Rio-Hondo, and which empties itself into Rio-Hondo ; which river shall also serve as a common boundary as far as its junction with Rio-Hondo ; and from thence descending by Rio-Hondo to the sea, as the whole is marked on the map which the Plenipotentiaries of the Two Crowns have thought proper to make use of, for ascertaining the points agreed upon, to the end that a good correspondence may reign between the two nations, and that the English workmen, cutters, and labourers, may not trespass from an uncertainty of the boundaries. The respective commissaries shall fix upon convenient places, in the territory above mark-



ed out, in order that his Britannic Majesty's subjects, employed in the felling of logwood, may, without interruption, build therein houses and magazines necessary for themselves, their families, and their effects; and his Catholic Majesty assures to them the enjoyment of all that is expressed in the present article; provided that these stipulations shall not be considered as derogating in any wise from his rights of sovereignty. Therefore, all the English, who may be dispersed in any other parts, whether on the Spanish continent, or in any of the islands whatsoever, dependent on the aforesaid Spanish continent, and for whatever reason it might be, without exception, shall retire within the district which has been above described, in the space of eighteen months, to be computed from the exchange of the ratifications; and for this purpose orders shall be issued on the part of his Britannic Majesty; and on that of his Catholic majesty, his governors shall be ordered to grant to the English dispersed every convenience possible for their removing to the settlement agreed upon by the present article, or for their retiring wherever they shall think proper. It is likewise stipulated, that if any fortifications should actually have been heretofore erected within the limits marked out, his Britannic majesty shall cause them all to be demolished; and he will order his subjects not to build any new ones. The English inhabitants, who shall settle there for the cutting of logwood, shall be permitted to enjoy a free fishery for their subsistence, on the coasts of the district above agreed on, or of the islands situated opposite thereto, without being in any wise disturbed on that account; provided they do not establish themselves, in any manner, on the said islands.

ART. VII. His Catholic Majesty shall restore to Great Britain the islands of Providence, and the Bahamas, without exception, in the same condition they were in when they were conquered by the arms of the King of Spain. The same stipulations inserted in the fifth article of this treaty

shall take place in favour of the Spanish subjects, with regard to the islands mentioned in the present article.

Art. VIII. All the countries and territories, which may have been, or which may be conquered, in any part of the world whatsoever, by the arms of his Britannic Majesty, as well as by those of his Catholic Majesty, which are not included in the present Treaty, neither under the head of cessions, nor under the head of restitutions, shall be restored without difficulty, and without requiring any compensation.

Art. IX. Immediately after the exchange of the ratifications, the two high contracting parties shall name commissaries to treat concerning new arrangements of commerce between the two nations, on the basis of reciprocity and mutual convenience; which arrangements shall be settled and concluded within the space of two years, to be computed from the first of January, 1784.

Art. X. As it is necessary to appoint a certain period for the restitutions and evacuations to be made by each of the High Contracting Parties, it is agreed, that the King of Great Britain shall cause East Florida to be evacuated three months after the ratification of the present treaty, or sooner, if it can be done. The King of Great Britain shall, in like manner, enter again into possession of the islands of Providence, and the Bahamas, without exception, in the space of three months after the ratification of the present treaty, or sooner, if it can be done. In consequence whereof, the necessary orders shall be sent by each of the High Contracting Parties, with reciprocal passports for the ships which shall carry them, immediately after the ratification of the present Treaty.

Art. XI. Their Britannic and Catholic Majesties promise to observe sincerely, and *bona fide*, all the articles contained and established in the present treaty; and they will not suffer the same to be infringed, directly or indirectly, by their re-

spective subjects: and the said High Contracting Parties guaranty to each other, generally and reciprocally, all the stipulations of the present treaty.

Art. XII. The solemn ratifications of the present treaty, prepared in good and due form, shall be exchanged in this city of Versailles, between the High Contracting Parties, in the space of one month, or sooner, if possible, to be computed from the day of the signature of the present treaty. In witness whereof, we, the underwritten Ambassadors Extraordinary, and Ministers Plenipotentiary, have signed, with our hands, in their names, and by virtue of our respective full powers, the present Definitive Treaty, and have caused the seals of our arms to be affixed thereto.

Done at Versailles, the third day of September, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-three.

MANCHESTER.

(L. S.)

LE COMTE D'ARANDA.

(L. S.)

### SEPARATE ARTICLES.

Art. I. Some of the titles, made use of by the Contracting Parties, whether in the full powers, and other instruments, during the course of the negotiation, or in the preamble of the present Treaty, not being generally acknowledged, it has been agreed, that no prejudice should ever result therefrom to either of the said Contracting Parties; and that the titles taken or omitted, on either side, upon occasion of the said negotiation, and of the present Treaty, shall not be cited, or quoted as a precedent.

Art. II. It has been agreed and determined, that the French language, made use of in all copies of the present Treaty, shall not form an example which may be alleged or quoted as a precedent, or, in any manner, prejudice either of the Contracting Powers; and that they shall conform, for the future, to what has been observed, and ought to be observed, with

regard to, and on the part of, powers, who are in the practice and possession of giving and receiving copies of like treaties in a different language from the French ; the present Treaty having, nevertheless, the same force and virtue as if the aforesaid practice had been therein observed.

In witness whereof, we, the under-written Ambassadors Extraordinary and Ministers Plenipotentiary of their Britannic and Catholic Majesties, have signed the present Separate Articles, and have caused the seals of our arms to be affixed thereto.

Done at Versailles, the third day of September, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-three.

(L. S.)

MANCHESTER.

(L. S.)

LE COMTE D'ARANDA.

### DECLARATION.

The new state in which commerce may perhaps be found, in all parts of the world, will demand revisions and explanations of the subsisting treaties ; but an entire abrogation of those treaties, in whatever period it might be, would throw commerce into such confusion as would be of infinite prejudice to it.

In some of the treaties of this sort there are not only articles which relate merely to commerce, but many others which ensure, reciprocally, to the respective subjects, privileges, facilities for conducting their affairs, personal protections, and other advantages, which are not, and which ought not to be, of a changeable nature, such as the regulations relating merely to the value of goods and merchandize, variable from circumstances of every kind.

When, therefore, the state of trade between the two nations shall be treated upon, it is requisite to be understood, that the alterations which may be made in the subsisting treaties are to extend only to arrangements merely commercial ; and that the privileges and advantages, mutual and particular, be

not only preserved on each side, but even augmented, if it can be done.

In this view, his Majesty has consented to the appointment of Commissaries, on each side, who shall treat solely upon this object.

Done at Versailles, the third day of September, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-three.

(L. S.)

MANCHESTER.

### COUNTER-DECLARATION.

The Catholic King, in proposing new arrangements of commerce, has had no other design than to remedy, by the rules of reciprocity and mutual convenience, whatever may be defective in preceding treaties of commerce. The King of Great Britain may judge from thence, that the intention of his Catholic Majesty is not in any manner to cancel all the stipulations contained in the above-mentioned treaties; he declares, on the contrary, from henceforth, that he is disposed to maintain all the privileges, facilities, and advantages, expressed in the old treaties, as far as they shall be reciprocal, or compensated by equivalent advantages. It is to attain this end, desired on each side, that Commissaries are to be named to treat upon the state of trade between the two nations, and that a considerable space of time is to be allowed for completing their work. His Catholic Majesty hopes that this object will be pursued with the same good faith, and with the same spirit of conciliation, which have presided over the discussion of all the other points included in the Definitive Treaty; and his said Majesty is equally confident, that the respective Commissaries will employ the utmost diligence for the completion of this important work.

Done at Versailles, the third day of September, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-three.

(L. S.)

LE COMTE D'ARANDA.



*Extract from the Proclamation of Don Enriquí White, Colonel and Governor of East Florida, dated St. Augustine, October 12th, 1803.*

“Forasmuch as it is proper partly to modify the rules and conditions which the government had established for concessions and divisions of lands to the new settlers in this province, and as many abuses, on the part of these new settlers, have arisen under the system which government had established, tending to the prejudice and hindrance of the advancement of the province, for which reason, and to remedy these evils, I recommend and order, that for the future the following regulations be observed, viz. :

1st. (Prescribes the oath required to be taken by new settlers.)

2d. (Specifies the number of acres granted to each family.)

3d. Those to whom land is granted shall begin to cultivate it within a month from the time of the grant; in failure of which, the grant shall be annulled.

4th. All concessions of lands, in which no time is specified, shall expire and be annulled, if the person to whom they are made shall not appear to cultivate and take possession of them within the space of six months.

5th. None of those who cede or convey their lands to others, under the pretence of selling their improvements, shall be granted any lands in future, nor shall these cessions or conveyances be admitted, if done without the consent of government.

6th. Notwithstanding what is said in the foregoing article, if it should suit any settler to change his situation, it will be permitted, if he desires, by granting him lands where he may wish; but on condition of giving up the improvements on the lands he left, for the royal revenue, on purpose to hinder the abuse of transfers or sales, which are prohibited, under that

pretext, until the right time prefixed in the former rules or place.

7th. (Relates to cutting wood for government.)

8th. (Relates to fixing the spot desired.)

9th. Every person who shall have abandoned or discontinued cultivating, or does not actually cultivate the lands which at any period shall have been measured to him by the Surveyor-General, even after he has obtained the corresponding title of proprietorship from the office, shall lose his right to them, and they shall be given to any one, not having land already, by proving summarily that they have laid uncultivated for at least two years."

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*Colonel Clinch's Official Letter respecting the Expedition against the Negro Fort, on the Apalachicola.*

Camp Crawford, August 2, 1816.

SIR :—I have the honor to inform you that I received a letter from Major General Gaines, dated —, advising me that he had ordered a supply of provisions, two eighteen pounders, one five and a half inch howitzer, and a quantity of ordnance stores, to ascend the Apalachicola river to this post. I was also instructed, in case opposition should be made by the fort, occupied by Negroes and Choctaw Indians, to the passage of the convoy, to take measures for its reduction.

A confidential chief, called Lafarka, was immediately despatched with a letter for the officer commanding the convoy, with instructions to remain near the Bay until the arrival of the vessels. On the 15th ultimo, the chief returned, with a letter from Sailing Master Loomis, informing me of his arrival in the bay with two gun vessels, convoying two transports laden with provisions, ordnance, ordnance stores, &c. On the 17th I left this place with one hundred and sixteen chosen men, in

boats, and commenced descending the river. The detachment was divided into two companies, commanded by Brevet Major Muhlenberg and Captain Taylor. On the same evening, I was joined by Major M'Intosh, with one hundred and fifty Indians, and on the 18th, by an old chief, called Captain Isaacs, and the celebrated chief Koteha-haigo, (or mad tiger,) at the head of a large body of Indians, many of whom were without arms.

My junction with these chiefs was accidental; their expedition having been long since projected. Their object was to capture the negroes within the fort, and restore them to their proper owners. We held a council, and an agreement was entered into. I ordered the chiefs to keep parties in advance, and to secure every negro they fell in with, and to join me near the fort. On the 19th they brought in a prisoner, taken the evening before, with a scalp, which he said he was carrying to the Seminoles. He further stated that the black commandant, and the Choctaw chief, had returned to the fort, from the Bay, the day before, with a party of men, with information that they had killed several Americans, and taken a boat from them. I was met the same day by Lafarka, who informed me that he had not been able to deliver my second letter to the officer commanding the gun vessels.

At two o'clock on the morning of the 20th we landed within cannon shot of the fort, but protected by a skirt of wood. I again sent Lafarka with a letter, notifying the officer commanding the convoy of my arrival. My plan of attack was communicated to the chiefs; and a party of Indians, under Major McIntosh, were directed to surround the fort. Finding it impossible to carry my plans into execution without the assistance of artillery, I ordered Major McIntosh to keep one third of his men constantly hovering around the fort, and to keep up an irregular fire.

This had the desired effect, as it induced the enemy to amuse us with an incessant roar of artillery, without any

other effect than that of striking terror into the souls of most of our red friends.

On the 23d I received an answer from sailing-master Loomis, in which he informed me that on the 16th he sent midshipman Luffborough, (a young gentleman of fair promise,) and four seamen, into the river, for fresh water : that they were fired upon by a party of negroes and Choctaws ; that the midshipman and two seamen were killed ; that the third was taken prisoner ; that the fourth made his escape by swimming : and requested me to send down a party of men, to assist in getting up the vessels. In the evening a deputation of chiefs went into the fort, and demanded its surrender ; but they were abused, and treated with the utmost contempt. The black chief heaped much abuse on the Americans, and said he had been left in command of the fort by the British government, and that he would sink any American vessels that should attempt to pass it ; and would blow up the fort if he could not defend it. The chiefs also informed me that the negroes had hoisted a red flag, and that the English jack was flying over it.

On the 24th I ordered Lieutenant Wilson to descend the river, with a small party, to assist in getting up the vessels, and to inform the commanding officer that the fort was completely surrounded, and that he might ascend the river in safety. On the 26th I went on board gun vessel 149, about four miles below the fort. I had previously determined on a position in the rear of the fort, for erecting a battery ; but, on examining the two eighteen pounders, I found them mounted on heavy garrison carriages, which rendered it almost impossible to get them to the spot selected, as they must have been taken through a cypress swamp.

After reconnoitring the river below the fort, in company with the commandant of the gun vessels, I determined to erect a battery on the west side, and ordered brevet major Muhlenberg and captain Taylor to cross, with their companies, leav-



ing lieutenant McGavick and a party of men with the main body of the Indians, to secure the rear.

I immediately commenced the battery, and ordered the gun vessels to move up, and take a secure position, and directed the transport *Similante* to be in readiness to land the artillery, under cover of the night.

In the course of the evening, after consulting with the commanding officer of the convoy, I directed him to move up the two gun vessels at daylight the next morning. About six in the morning they came up in handsome style, and made fast along side of the intended battery.

In a few minutes we received a shot from a 32 pounder, which was returned in a gallant manner. The contest was momentary. The fifth discharge (a hot shot) from gun vessel No. 154, commanded by sailing master Basset, entered the magazine, and blew up the fort. The explosion was awful, and the scene horrible beyond description. Our first care, on arriving at the scene of destruction, was to rescue and relieve the unfortunate beings that survived the explosion.

The war yells of the Indians, the cries and lamentations of the wounded, compelled the soldier to pause in the midst of victory, to drop a tear for the sufferings of his fellow beings, and to acknowledge that the great Ruler of the Universe must have used us as his instruments in chastising the blood-thirsty and murderous wretches that defended the fort. The fort contained about one hundred effective men, (including twenty-five Choctaws,) and about two hundred women and children, not more than one-sixth part of which number were saved. It stood on the east side of the river about twenty-five miles from the bay, and one hundred and twenty, by water, from this post. The parapet was about fifteen feet high and eighteen thick, and defended by one thirty-two, three twenty-fours, two nines, two sixes, and an elegant five and an half inch howitzer.

It was situated on a beautiful and commanding bluff, with



the river in front, a large creek just below, a swamp in the rear, and a small creek just above, which rendered it difficult to be approached by artillery. But, under all these disadvantages, it was taken without the loss of a single man on our part.

The property taken and destroyed could not have amounted to less than two hundred thousand dollars. From the best information I could obtain, there was in the fort about three thousand stand of arms, from five to six hundred barrels of powder, and a great quantity of fixed ammunition, shot, shells, &c. One magazine, containing one hundred and sixty-three barrels of powder, was saved, which was a valuable prize to the Indians. The greater part of the negroes belonged to the Spaniards and Indians. The American negroes had principally settled on the river, and a number of them had left their fields and gone over to the Seminoles, on hearing of our approach. Their corn fields extended nearly fifty miles up the river, and their numbers were daily increasing. The chiefs passed sentence of death on the outlawed Choctaw chief and the black commandant, (Garson,) for the murder of the four Americans, and the sentence was immediately carried into execution. The Spanish negroes were delivered to Mr. Hambly, agent for the house of Messrs. Forbes & Co. and the American negroes are confined at this post.

On the 30th inst. the transports were unloaded, as I found it impossible for them to ascend the river, and the provisions, ordnance, and ordnance stores, put on board small boats, and ordered to this post.

On the evening of the 1st inst. I received information that a large body of Seminole Indians was within a day's march of us; and in a few hours the report was confirmed by a letter from Major Cutler, left in command at Camp Crawford, informing me that a large body of Seminoles were descending the Apalachicola. I immediately ordered Major Muhlenberg to keep the boats together, and to be in readiness to receive

them, and directed one hundred Indians to keep with the boats, and to act in concert, if necessary.

I advanced with two hundred Cowetas, under the gallant Major McIntosh, to meet them; but the cowardly wretches dispersed, without our being able to get a view of them.

I should do injustice to my own feelings, and to the officers and men that were with me on this expedition, were I to close this report without tendering to them my warmest acknowledgments for their cool and intrepid conduct, and for their patience and perseverance under the most trying circumstances. To the distinguished Lieut. Randolph, and to Dr. Buck, (who composed my staff,) I am under many obligations. Doctor Buck's coolness and intrepidity were only equalled by his superior skill, and humane and generous attention to the wounded.

I must beg leave to recommend to my government the gallant Major McIntosh, Captains Noble, Kanard, George Lovett, Blue, and Lieut. Billy Miller, (all from Coweta,) for their distinguished conduct during the whole expedition.

With considerations of the highest respect, I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

D. L. CLINCH,  
Lt. Col. 4th Inf. Commd'g. &c.

Col. R. BUTLER,  
Adjutant General, Division of the South.

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BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

### A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas a Treaty of Amity, Settlement, and Limits, between the United States of America and his Catholic Majesty was concluded and signed between their Plenipotentiaries, in this City, on the twenty-second day of February, in the year

of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and nineteen, which treaty, word for word, is as follows :

## [ORIGINAL.]

*Treaty of Amity, Settlement, and Limits, between the United States of America and His Catholic Majesty.*

The United States of America and his Catholic Majesty, desiring to consolidate, on a permanent basis, the friendship and good correspondence which happily prevails between the two parties, have determined to settle and terminate all their differences and pretensions, by a Treaty, which shall designate, with precision, the limits of their respective bordering territories in North America.

With this intention, the President of the United States has furnished with their full powers JOHN QUINCY ADAMS, Secretary of State of the United States ; and his Catholic Majesty has appointed the most excellent Lord Don LUIS DE ONIS, Gonzales, Lopez y Vara, Lord of the town of Rayaces, perpetual Regidor of the Corporation of the City of Salamanca, Knight Grand-Cross of the Royal American Order of Isabella the Catholic, decorated with the Lys of La Vendee, Knight Pensioner of the Royal

## [ORIGINAL.]

*Tratado de Amistad, arreglo de diferencias y Limites, entre S. M. Ca. y los Estados Unidos de America.*

Deseando S. M. Católica y los Estados Unidos de America consolidar de un modo permanente la buena correspondencia y amistad que felizmente reyna entre ambas partes, han resuelto transigir y terminar todas sus diferencias y pretensiones por medio de un Tratado, que fixe con precision, los limites de sus respectivos y confinantes territorios en la America septentrional.

Con esta mira han nombrado, Sa. M. Ca. al Exmo. Sor. Dn. LUIS DE ONIS, Gonsalez, Lopez y Vara, Señor de la Villa de Rayaces, Regidor perpetuo del ayuntamiento de la Ciudad de Salamanca, Caballero Gran Cruz de la Real orden ; Americana de Isabel la Católica, y de la decoracion del Lis de la Vendéa, Caballero Pensionista de la Real y distinguida orden Española de Carlos III, Ministro Vocal de la Suprema Asamblea de dicha Rl. orden, de su consejo, su Secretario con exercicio de Decretos

and distinguished Spanish Order of Charles the Third, Member of the Supreme Assembly of the said Royal Order, of the Council of his Catholic Majesty—his Secretary, with Exercise of Decrees, and his Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary near the United States of America.

And the said Plenipotentiaries, after having exchanged their powers, have agreed upon and concluded the following articles:

Article I. There shall be a firm and inviolable peace and sincere friendship between the United States and their citizens, and his Catholic Majesty, his successors and subjects, without exception of persons or places.

Art. II. His Catholic Majesty cedes to the United States, in full property and sovereignty, all the territories which belong to him situated to the eastward of the Mississippi, known by the name of East and West Florida. The adjacent islands dependent on said provinces, all public lots and squares, vacant lands, public edifices, fortifications, barracks, and other buildings, which are not private property, archives and documents, which relate directly to the pro-

y su Enviado Extraordinario y Ministro Plenipotenciario cerca de los Estados Unidos de America: Y el Presidente de los Estados Unidos, à Don JUAN QUINCY ADAMS, Secretario de Estado de los mismos Estados Unidos.

Y ambos Plenipotenciarios, despues de haver cangeado sus Poderes, han ajustado y firmado los Articulos siguientes :

Articulo I. Habrá una paz solida e inviolable, y una amistad sincera entre S. M. Ca. sus sucesores y subditos y los Estados Unidos y sus ciudadanos sin exception de personas ni lugares.

Art. II. S. M. Ca. cede à los Estados Unidos, en toda propiedad y soberania, todos los territorios que le pertenecen, situados al Este del Misisipi, conocidos bajo el nombre de Florida Occidental y Florida Oriental.—Son comprendidos en este articulo las yslas adyacentes dependientes de dichas dos provincias, los sitios, plazas publicas, terrenos valdios, edificios publicos, fortificaciones, casernas y otros edificios que no sean propiedad de algun individuo parti-



perty and sovereignty of said provinces, are included in this article. The said archives and documents shall be left in possession of the commissaries or officers of the United States, duly authorized to receive them.

Art. III. The boundary line between the two countries, west of the Mississippi, shall begin on the Gulf of Mexico, at the mouth of the river Sabine, in the sea, continuing north, along the western bank of that river, to the 32d degree of latitude ; thence, by a line due north, to the degree of latitude where it strikes the Rio Roxo of Natchitoches, or *Red River* ; then, following the course of the Rio Roxo westward, to the degree of longitude 100 west from London, and 23 from Washington ; then crossing the said Red river, and running thence, by a line due north, to the river Arkansas ; thence, following the course of the southern bank of the Arkansas, to its source, in latitude 42 north ; and thence, by that parallel of latitude, to the South Sea. The whole being as laid down in Melish's map of the United States, published at Philadelphia, improved to the 1st of January,

cular, los archivos y documentos directamente relativos á la propiedad y soberania de las mismas dos provincias. Dichos archivos y documentos se entregarán á los comisarios ú oficiales de los Estados Unidos debidamente autorizados para recibirlos.

Art. III. La Línea divisoria entre los dos países al Occidente del Misisipi arrancará del Seno Mexicano en la embocadura del Rio Sabina en el Mar, seguirá al Norte por la Orilla Occidental de este Rio hasta el grado 32 de latitud ; desde alli por una linea recta al Norte hasta el grado de latitud en que entra en el Rio Roxo de Natchitoches, (*Red River*,) y continuará por el curso del Rio Roxo al Oeste hasta el grado 100 de longitud Occidental de Londres y 23 de Washington, en que cortará este Rio, y Seguirá por una linea recta al Norte por el mismo grado hasta el Rio Arkansas, cuya Orilla Meridional seguirá hasta su nacimiento en el grado 42 de latitud Septentrional ; y desde dicho punto se terará una linea recta por el mismo paralelo de latitud hasta el Mar del Sur. Todo segun el Mapa de los Estados Unidos de Melish, publicado en Philadelphia y perfeccionado en



1818. But, if the source of the Arkansas river shall be found to fall north or south of latitude 42, then the line shall run from the said source due south or north, as the case may be, till it meets the said parallel of latitude 42, and thence, along the said parallel, to the South Sea : All the islands in the Sabine, and the said Red and Arkansas rivers, throughout the course thus described, to belong to the United States ; but the use of the waters and the navigation of the Sabine to the sea, and of the said rivers Roxo and Arkansas, throughout the extent of the said boundary, on their respective banks, shall be common to the respective inhabitants of both nations.

The two high contracting parties agree to cede and renounce all their rights, claims, and pretensions, to the territories described by the said line ; that is to say : “ the United States hereby cede to his Catholic Majesty, and renounce for ever, all their rights, claims, and pretensions, to the territories lying west and south of the above described line ; and, in like manner, his Catholic Majesty cedes to the said United States all his rights, claims, and pretensions,

1818. Pero si el nacimiento del Rio Arkansas se hallase al Norte ó Sur de dicho grado 42 de latitud, seguirá la linea desde el origen de dicho Rio recta al Sur ó Norte, segun fuese necesario hasta que encuentre el expresado grado 42 de latitud, y desde alli por el mismo paralelo hasta el Mar del Sur. Perteneceran á los Estados Unidos todas las Yslas de los Rios Sabina, Roxo de Natchitoches, y Arkansas, en la extension de todo el curso descrito ; pero el uso de las aguas y la navegacion del Sabina hasta el Mar y de los expresados Rios Roxo y Arkansas en toda la extension de sus mencionados limites en sus respectivas Orillas, sera comun á los habitantes de las dos Naciones.

Las dos altas partes contratantes convienen en ceder y renunciar todos sus derechos, reclamaciones, y pretensiones sobre los territorios que se describen en esta linea ; á saber, S. M. Ca. renuncia y cede para siempre por si, y á nombre de sus herederos y sucesores todos los derechos que tiene sobre los territorios al Esté y al Norte de dicha linea : y los Estados Unidos en igual forma ceden á S. M. Ca. y renuncian para siempre todos sus derechos, recla-

to any territories east and north of the said line, and for himself, his heirs, and successors, renounces all claim to the said territories forever.

Art. IV. To fix this line with more precision, and to place the land-marks which shall designate exactly the limits of both nations, each of the contracting parties shall appoint a commissioner and a surveyor, who shall meet before the termination of one year from the date of the ratification of this treaty, at Natchitoches, on the Red river, and proceed to run and mark the said line, from the mouth of the Sabine to the Red river, and from the Red river to the river Arkansas, and to ascertain the latitude of the source of the said river Arkansas, in conformity to what is above agreed upon and stipulated, and the line of latitude 42 deg. to the South Sea; they shall make out plans, and keep journals of their proceedings, and the result agreed upon by them shall be considered as part of this treaty, and shall have the same force as if it were inserted therein. The two governments will amicably agree respecting the necessary articles to be furnished to those persons,

maçiones, y pretensiones á qualesquiera territorios situados al Oeste y al Sur de la misma linea arriba descrita.

Art. IV. Para fixar esta linea con mas precision y establecer los Mojones que señalen con exactitud los limites de ambas naciones, nombrará cada una de ellas un comisario y un geómetra que se junterán antes del termino de un año, contado desde la fecha de la ratificacion de este tratado, en Natchitoches, en las Orillas del Rio Roxo, y procederán á señalar y demarcar dicha linea, desde la embocadura del Sabina hasta el Rio Roxo, y de este hasta el Rio Arkansas, y á averiguar con certidumbre, el origen del expresado Rio Arkansas, y fixar segun queda estipulado y convenido en este tratado, la linea que debe seguir, desde el grado 42 de latitud hasta el Mar Pacifico. Llevaran diários y levantarán planos de sus operaciones, y el resultado convenido por ellos se tendrá por parte de este tratado, y tendrá la misma fuerza que si estuviese inserto en el; deviendo convenir amistosamente los dos Gobiernos en el arreglo de quanto necesiten estos individuos, y en la escolta

and also as to their respective escorts, should such be deemed necessary.

Art. V. The inhabitants of the ceded territories shall be secured in the free exercise of their religion without any restriction, and all those who may desire to remove to the Spanish dominions shall be permitted to sell or export their effects at any time whatever, without being subject, in either case, to duties.

Art. VI. The inhabitants of the territories which his Catholic Majesty cedes to the United States, by this treaty, shall be incorporated in the Union of the United States, as soon as may be consistent with the principles of the federal constitution, and admitted to the enjoyment of all the privileges, rights, and immunities, of the citizens of the United States.

Art. VII. The officers and troops of his Catholic Majesty, in the territories hereby ceded by him to the United States, shall be withdrawn, and possession of the places occupied by them shall be given within six months after the exchange of the ratifications of this treaty, or sooner, if possible, by the

respectiva que deban llevar, siempre que se crea necesario.

Art. V. A los habitantes de todos los territorios cedidos se les conservará el ejercicio libre de su religion, sin restriccion alguna; y á todos los que quisieren trasladarse à los dominios Españoles se les permitirá la venta ó extraccion de sus efectos en qualquiera tiempo, sin que pueda exigirseles en uno ni otro casa derecho alguno.

Art. VI. Los habitantes de los territorios que S. M. Ca. cede por este tratado á los Estados Unidos seran incorporados en la Union de los mismos Estados, lo mas presto posible, segun los principios de la constitucion federal, y admitidos al goce de todos los privilegios, derechos é inmunidades de que disfrutaban los ciudadanos de los demas Estados.

Art. VII. Los oficiales y tropas de S. M. Ca. evacuarán los territorios cedidos à los Estados Unidos seis meses despues del cange de la ratificacion de este tratado, ó antes si fuese posible, y darán posesion de ellos à los oficiales, ó comisarios de los Estados Unidos debidamente autorizados para recibirlos: Y los

officers of his Catholic Majesty, to the commissioners or officers of the United States, duly appointed to receive them; and the United States shall furnish the transports and escort necessary to convey the Spanish officers and troops, and their baggage, to the Havana.

Art. VIII. All the grants of land made before the 24th of January, 1818, by his Catholic Majesty, or by his lawful authorities in the said territories, ceded by his Majesty to the United States, shall be ratified and confirmed to the persons in possession of the lands, to the same extent that the same grants would be valid, if the territories had remained under the dominion of his Catholic Majesty.— But the owners in possession of such lands who, by reason of the recent circumstances of the Spanish nation, and the revolutions in Europe, have been prevented from fulfilling all the conditions of their grants, shall complete them within the terms limited in the same, respectively, from the date of this treaty; in default of which, the said grants shall be null and void. All grants made since the said 24th of January, 1818, when the first

Estados Unidos proveerán los transportes y escolta necesarios parr llevar à la Habana los oficiales y tropas Españolas y sus equipages.

Art. VIII. Todas las concesiones de terrenos hechas por S. M. Ca. ó por sus legítimas autoridades antes del 24 de Enero, de 1818, en los expresados territorios que S. M. cede à los Estados Unidos, quedaran ratificadas y reconocidas á las personas que esten en posesion de ellas, del mismo modo que lo serian si S. M. hubiese continuado en el dominio de estos territorios; pero los propietarios que por un efecto de las circunstancias en que se ha hallado la Nacion Española y por las revoluciones de Europa, no hubiesen podido llenar todas las obligaciones de las concesiones, seran obligados á cumplirlas segun las condiciones de sus respectivas concesiones desde la fecha de este tratado, en defecto de lo qual seran nulas y de ningun valor. Todas las concesiones posteriores al 24 de Enero de 1818, en que fueron hechas las



proposal, on the part of his Catholic Majesty, for the cession of the Floridas was made, are hereby declared, and agreed to be, null and void.

Art. IX. The two high contracting parties, animated with the most earnest desire of conciliation, and with the object of putting an end to all the differences which have existed between them, and of confirming the good understanding which they wish to be forever maintained between them, reciprocally renounce all claims for damages or injuries which they themselves, as well as their respective citizens and subjects, may have suffered until the time of signing this treaty.

The renunciation of the United States will extend to all the injuries mentioned in the convention of the 11th of August, 1802.

2. To all claims on account of prizes made by French privateers, and condemned by French consuls, within the territory and jurisdiction of Spain.

3. To all claims of indemnities on account of the suspension of the right of deposit at New Orleans in 1802.

4. To all claims of citizens

primeras proposiciones de parte de S. M. Ca. para la cesion de las dos Floridas, convienen y declaren las dos altas partes contratantes que quedan anuladas y de ningun valor.

Art. IX. Las dos altas partes contratantes animadas de los mas vivos deseos de conciliacion y con el objeto de cortar de raiz todas las discusiones que han existido entre ellas y afianzar la buena armonia que desean mantener perpetuamente, renuncian una y otre reciprocamente á todas las reclamaciones de daños y perjuicios que asi ellas como sus respectivos subditos y ciudadanos hayan experimentado hasta el dia en que se firme este tratado.

La renuncia de los Estados Unidos se extiende à todos los perjuicios mencionados en el Convenio, de 11 de Agosto de 1802.

2. A todas las reclamaciones de presas hechas por los Corsarios Franceses, y condenadas por los Consules Franceses dentro del territorio y jurisdiccion de España.

3. A todas las reclamaciones de indemnizaciones por la suspension del derecho de Deposito en Nueva Orleans en 1802.

4. A todas las reclamaciones



of the United States upon the government of Spain, arising from the unlawful seizures at sea, and in the ports and territories of Spain, or the Spanish colonies.

5. To all claims of citizens of the United States upon the Spanish government, statements of which, soliciting the interposition of the government of the United States, have been presented to the Department of State, or to the Minister of the United States in Spain, since the date of the convention of 1802, and until the signature of this treaty.

The renunciation of his Catholic Majesty extends :

1. To all the injuries mentioned in the convention of the 11th of August, 1802.

2. To the sums which his Catholic Majesty advanced for the return of Captain Pike from the Provincias Internas.

3. To all injuries caused by the expedition of Miranda, that was fitted out and equipped at New-York.

4. To all claims of Spanish subjects upon the government of the United States, arising from unlawful seizures at sea, or within the ports and territorial jurisdiction of the United States.

de los ciudadanos de los Estados Unidos contra el Gobierno Español procedents de presas confiscaciones injustas asi en la Mar como en los puertos y territorios de S. M. en España y sus Colonias.

5. A todas las reclamaciones de los ciudadanos de los Estados Unidos contra el Gobierno de España, en que se haya reclamado la interposicion del Gobierno de los Estados Unidos antes de la fecha de este tratado, y desde la fecha del convenio de 1802, ó presentadas al Departamento de Estado de esta Republica, ó Ministro de los Estados Unidos en España.

La renuncia de S. M. Ca. se extiende :

1. A todos los perjuicios mencionados en el convenio de 11 de Agosto, 1802.

2. A las cantidades que suplió, para la vuelta del Capitan Pike, de las provincias internas.

3. A los perjuicios causados por la expedicion de Miranda, armada y equipada en Nueva York.

4. A todas las reclamaciones de los subditos de S. M. Ca. contra el Gobierno de los Estados Unidos procedentes de presas y confiscaciones injustas asi en la mar como en los puertos y territorios de los Estados Unidos.

Finally, to all the claims of subjects of his Catholic Majesty upon the government of the United States, in which the interposition of his Catholic Majesty's government has been solicited before the date of this treaty, and since the date of the convention of 1802, or which may have been made to the Department of Foreign Affairs of his Majesty, or to his Minister in the United States.

And the high contracting parties, respectively, renounce all claim to indemnities for any of the recent events or transactions of their respective commanders and officers in the Floridas.

The United States will cause satisfaction to be made for the injuries, if any, which, by process of law, shall be established to have been suffered by the Spanish officers, and individual Spanish inhabitants, by the late operations of the American army in Florida.

Art. X. The convention entered into between the two governments, on the 11th of August, 1802, the ratifications of which were exchanged the 21st December, 1818, is annulled.

Art. XI. The United States, exonerating Spain from all demands in future, on account of

5. A todas las reclamaciones de los subditos de S. M. Ca. contra el Gobierno de los Estados Unidos, en que se haya reclamado la interposicion del Gobierno de España antes de la fecha de este tratado, y desde la fecha del convenio de 1802, ó que hayan sido presentadas al Departamento de Estado de S. M. ó á su Ministro en los Estados Unidos.

Las altas, partes contratantes renuncian reciprocamente todos sus derechos à indemnizaciones por qualquiera de los ultimos; a contecimientos y transacciones de sus respectivos comandantes y oficiales en las Floridas.

Y los Estados Unidos satisfaran los perjuicios, si los hubise habido, que los habitantes y oficiales Españoles justifiquen legalmente haber sufrido por las operaciones de Exercito Americano en ellas.

Art. X. Queda anulado el convenio hecho entre los dos Gobiernos en 11 de Agosto, de 1802, cuyas ratificaciones fueron cangeadas en 21 de Diciembre de 1818.

Art. XI. Los Estados Unidos descargando á la España para lo sucesivo de todas las reclama-

the claims of their citizens to which the renunciations herein contained extend, and considering them entirely cancelled, undertake to make satisfaction for the same, to an amount not exceeding five millions of dollars. To ascertain the full amount and validity of those claims, a Commission, to consist of three Commissioners, Citizens of the United States, shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, which commission shall meet at the city of Washington, and, within the space of three years from the time of their first meeting, shall receive, examine, and decide upon the amount and validity of all the claims included within the descriptions above mentioned. The said Commissioners shall take an oath or affirmation, to be entered on the record of their proceedings, for the faithful and diligent discharge of their duties ; and, in case of the death, sickness, or necessary absence of any such Commissioner, his place may be supplied by the appointment as aforesaid, or by the President of the United States, during the recess of the Senate, of another Commissioner in his stead. The said Commis-

siones de sus ciudadanos á que se extienden las renunciaciones hechas en este tratado, y dandolas por enteramente canceladas, toman sobre si la satisfaccion ó pago de todas ellas hasta la cantidad de cinco millones de pesos fuertes. El Sor. Presidente nombrará con consentimiento y aprobacion del Senado, una Comision compuesta de tres Comisionados, ciudadanos de los Estados Unidos, para averiguar con certidumbre el importe total y justificacion de estas reclamaciones ; la qual se reunirá en la ciudad de Washington, y en el espacio de tres años, desde su reunion primera, recibirá, examinará, y decidirá sobre el importe y justificacion de todas las reclamaciones arriba expresadas y descritas. Los dichos comisionados prestarán juramento, que se onatará en los quadernos de sus operaciones, para el desempeño fiel y eficaz de sus deberes, y en caso de muerte, enfermedad ó ausencia precisa de alguno de ellos, será reemplazado del mismo modo, ó por el Sor. Presidente de los Estados Unidos, en ausencia del Senado. Los dichos comisionados se hallaran autorizados para oir y examinar bajo juramento qualquiera demanda relativa á dichas reclama-

sioners shall be authorized to hear and examine, on oath, every question relative to the said claims, and to receive all suitable authentic testimony concerning the same. And the Spanish Government shall furnish all such documents and elucidations as may be in their possession, for the adjustment of the said claims, according to the principles of justice, the laws of nations, and the stipulations of the treaty between the two parties of 27th October, 1795; the said documents to be specified when demanded at the instance of the said Commissioners.

The payment of such claims as may be admitted and adjusted by the said Commissioners, or the major part of them, to an amount not exceeding five millions of dollars, shall be made by the United States, either immediately at their Treasury, or by the creation of Stock bearing an interest of six per cent. per annum, payable from the proceeds of sales of public lands within the territories hereby ceded to the United States, or in such other manner as the Congress of the United States may prescribe by law.

The records of the proceed-

ciones, y para recibir los testimonios autenticos y convenientes relativos á ellas. El Gobierno Español subministrará á todos aquellos documentos y aclaraciones que esten en su poder para el ajuste de las expresadas reclamaciones, segun los principios de justicia, el derecho de gentes, y las estipulaciones del tratado entre las dos partes de 27 de Octubre de 1795, cuyos documentos se especificarán quando se pidan á instancia de dichos comisionados.

Los Estados Unidos pagarán aquellas reclamaciones que sean admitidas y ajustadas por los dichos comisionados, ó por la mayor parte de ellos, hasta la cantidad de cinco millones de pesos fuertes, sea in mediatamente en su Tesoreria, ó por medio de uno creacion de fondos con el interés de un seis por ciento al añ, pagaderos de los productos de las ventas de los terrenos valdios en los territorios aqui cedidos á los Estados Unidos, ó de qualquiera otra manera que el Congreso de los Estados Unidos ordene por ley.

Se depositarán, despues de concluidas sus transacciones, en el Departamento de Estado de los Estados Unidos, los quader-nos de las operaciones de los



ings of the said Commissioners, together with the vouchers and documents produced before them, relative to the claims to be adjusted and decided upon by them, shall, after the close of their transactions, be deposited in the Department of State of the United States; and copies of them, or any part of them, shall be furnished to the Spanish Government, if required, at the demand of the Spanish Minister in the United States.

Art. XII. The treaty of limits and navigation, of 1795, remains confirmed in all and each one of its articles, excepting the 2d, 3d, 4th, 21st, and the second clause of the 22d article, which, having been altered by this treaty, or having received their entire execution, are no longer valid.

With respect to the 15th article of the same treaty of Friendship, Limits, and Navigation, of 1795, in which it is stipulated, that the flag shall cover the property, the two high contracting parties agree that this shall be so understood with respect to those powers who recognize this principle; but, if either of the two contracting parties shall be at war with a third party, and the other neutral, the flag

dichos Comisionados, juntamente con los documentos que se les presenten relativos á las reclamaciones que deben ajustar y decidir; y se entregarán copias de ellos ó de parte de ellos al Gobierno Español, y á peticion de su Ministro en los Estados Unidos, si lo solicitase.

Art. XII. El tratado de limites y navegacion de 1795, queda confirmado en todos y cada uno de sus articulos, excepto los articulos 2, 3, 4, 21, y la segunda clausula del 22, que habiendo sido alterados por esta tratado, ó cumplidos enteramente no pueden tener valor alguno.

Con respecto al articulo 15 del mismo tratado de amistad, limites y navegacion de 1795 en que se estipula, que la bandera cubre la propiedad, han convenido las dos altas partes contratantes en que esto se entienda asi con respecto á aquellas potencias que reconozcan este principio; pero que, si una de las dos partes contratantes estuviere en guerra con una tercera, y la otra neutral, la bandera de esta neutral cubrirá la propie-



of the neutral shall cover the property of enemies, whose government acknowledge this principle, and not of others.

Art. XIII. Both contracting parties, wishing to favour their mutual commerce, by affording in their ports every necessary assistance to their respective merchant vessels, have agreed, that the sailors who shall desert from their vessels in the ports of the other, shall be arrested and delivered up, at the instance of the consul, who shall prove, nevertheless, that the deserters belonged to the vessels that claim them, exhibiting the document that is customary in their nation; that is to say, the American consul in a Spanish port, shall exhibit the document known by the name of *Articles*, and the Spanish consul in American ports, the Roll of the vessel; and if the name of the deserter or deserters, who are claimed, shall appear in the one or the other, they shall be arrested, held in custody, and delivered to the vessel to which they shall belong.

Art. XIV. The United States hereby certify that they have not received any compensation, from France, for the injuries they suffered from her priva-

dad de los enemigos, cuyo gobierno reconozca este principio, y no de otros.

Art. XIII. Deseando ambas potencias contratantes favorecer el comercio reciproco prestando cada una en sus puertos todos los auxilios convenientes á sus respectivos buques mercantes, han acordado en hacer prender y entregar los marineros que desiertan de sus buques en los puertos de la otra, á instancia del Consul; quien sin embargo deberá probar que los desertores pertenecen á los buques que los reëlaman, manifestando el documento de costumbre en su nacion; esto es, que el consul Español en puerto Americano exhibirá el Rol del buque, y el consul Americano en puerto Espanol, el documento conocido bajo el nombre de *Articles*; y constando en uno ú otro el nombre nombres del desertor ó desertores que se reclaman, se procederá al arresto, custodia y entrega al buque á que correspondan.

Art. XIV. Los Estados Unidos certifican por el presente que no han recibido compensacion alguna de la Francia por los perjuicios que sufrieron de sus

teers, consuls, and tribunals, on the coasts, and in the ports of Spain, for the satisfaction of which provision is made by this treaty; and they will present an authentic statement of the prizes made, and of their true value, that Spain may avail herself of the same, in such manner as she may deem just and proper.

Art. XV. The United States, to give to his Catholic Majesty a proof of their desire to cement the relations of amity subsisting between the two nations, and to favour the commerce of the subjects of his Catholic Majesty, agree that Spanish vessels, coming laden only with productions of Spanish growth or manufactures, directly from the ports of Spain, or of her colonies, shall be admitted, for the term of twelve years, to the ports of Pensacola and St. Augustine, in the Floridas, without paying other or higher duties on their cargoes, or of tonnage, than will be paid by the vessels of the United States. During the said term, no other nation shall enjoy the same privileges within the ceded territories. The twelve years shall commence three months after the exchange of the ratifications of this treaty.

corsarios, consules y tribunales en las costas y puertos de España para cuya satisfaccion se proveé en este tratado, y presentarán una relacion justificada de las presas hechas, y de su verdadero valor, para que la España pueda servirse de ella en la manera que mas juzgue justo y conveniente.

Art. XV. Los Estados Unidos para dar á S. M. Cauna prueba de sus deseos de cimentar las reclamaciones de Amistad que existen entre las dos naciones, y de favorecer el Comercio de los subditos de S. M. Ca. convienen en que, los buques Españoles que vengan solo cargados de productos de sus frutos ó manufacturas directamente de los puertos de España ó de sus colonias, sean admitidos por el espacio de doce años en los puertos de Panzacola y San Augustin de las Floridas, sin pagar mas derechos por sus cargamentos, ni mayor derecho de tonelaje, que el que paguen los buques de los Estados Unidos. Durante este tiempo ninguna nacion tendrá derecho à los mismos privilegios en los territorios cedidos. Los doce años empezaran á contarse tres meses despues de haberse cambiado las ratificaciones de este tratado.

Art. XVI. The present treaty shall be ratified in due form, by the contracting parties, and the ratifications shall be exchanged in six months from this time, or sooner, if possible.

In witness whereof, we, the underwritten Plenipotentiaries of the United States of America, and of his Catholic Majesty, have signed, by virtue of our powers, the present Treaty of Amity, Settlement, and Limits, and have thereunto affixed our seals respectively.

Done at Washington, this twenty-second day of February, one thousand eight hundred and nineteen.

[Seal.] JOHN QUINCY ADAMS.

[Seal.] LUIS DE ONIS.

Art. XVI. El presente tratado será ratificado en debida forma por las partes contratantes, y las ratificaciones se cangearan en el espacio de seis meses desde esta fecha ; ó mas pronto si es posible.

En fé de lo qual nosotros los Infrascritos Plenipotenciarios de S. M. Ca., y de los Estados Unidos de America, hemos firmado en virtud de nuestros Poderes, el presente Tratado de Amistad, Arreglo de diferencias y Limites, y le hemos puesto nuestros sellos respectivos.

Hecho en Washington, á veinte y dos de Febrero de mil ochocientos diez y nueve.

[Seal.] LUIS DE ONIS,

[Seal.] JOHN QUINCY ADAMS.

And whereas his said Catholic Majesty did, on the twenty-fourth day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty, ratify and confirm the said treaty, which ratification is in the words and of the tenor following :

(TRANSLATION.)

“ Ferdinand the Seventh, by the grace of God, and by the constitution of the Spanish monarchy, king of the Spains.

Whereas, on the twenty-second day of February, of the year one thousand eight hundred and nineteen last past, a treaty

(ORIGINAL.)

“ Dn. Fernando Septimo por la gracia de Dios, y por la Constitucion de la Monarquia Española, Rey de las Españas.

Por quanto en el dia veinte y dos de Febrero del año proximo pasado de mil ochocientos diez y nueve, se concluyo y

was concluded and signed in the city of Washington, between Don Luis de Onis, my Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, and John Quincy Adams, Esquire, Secretary of State of the United States of America, competently authorized by both parties, consisting of sixteen articles, which had for their object the arrangement of differences, and of limits between both governments and their respective territories; which are of the following form and literal tenor."

firmino en la Ciudad de Washington entre Dn. Luis de Onis, mi Enviado Extraordinario y Ministro Plenipotenciario, y Dn. Juan Quincy Adams, Secretario de Estado de los Estados Unidos de America, autorizados competentemente por ambas partes, un tratado compuesto de diez y seis articulos, que tiene por objeto el arreglo de diferencias y de límites entre ambos Gobiernos y sus respectivos territorios; cuya forme y tenor literal es el siguiente."

[Here follows the above Treaty word for word.]

Therefore, having seen and examined the sixteen articles aforesaid, and having first obtained the consent and authority of the General Cortes of the nation with respect to the cession mentioned and stipulated in the 2d and 3d articles, I approve and ratify all and every one of the articles referred to, and the clauses which are contained in them; and, in virtue of these presents, I approve and ratify them; promising, on the faith and word of a King, to execute and observe them, and cause them to be executed and observed entirely as if I myself

" Por tanto, habiendo visto y examinado los referidos diez y seis articulos, y habiendo precedido la anuencia y autorizacion de las Cortes Generales de la Nacion por lo respectivo a la cesion que en los articulos 2º y 3º se menciona y estipula, he venido en aprobar y ratificar todos y cada uno de los referidos articulos y clausulas que en ellos se contiene; y en virtud de la presente los apruebo y ratifico; prometiendo en fê y palabra de Rey cumplirlos y observarlos, y hacer que se cumplan y observan enteramente como si Yo mismo los hubiese



had signed them : and that the circumstance of having exceeded the term of six months, fixed for the exchange of the ratifications in the 16th article, may afford no obstacle in any manner, it is my deliberate will that the present ratification be as valid and firm, and produce the same effects, as if it had been done within the determined period. Desirous at the same time of avoiding any doubt or ambiguity concerning the meaning of the 8th article of the said treaty, in respect to the date which is pointed out in it as the period for the confirmation of the grants of lands in the Floridas, made by me, or by the competent authorities in my royal name, which point of date was fixed in the positive understanding of the three grants of land made in favour of the Duke of Alagon, the Count of Punonrostro, and Don Pedro de Vargas, being annulled by its tenor, I think proper to declare that the said three grants have remained and do remain entirely annulled and invalid ; and that neither the three individuals mentioned, nor those who may have title or interest through them, can avail themselves of the said grants at any time, or in any manner :

firmado : sin que sirva de obstaculo en manera alguna la circunstancia de haber transcurrido el termino de los seis meses prefijados para el cange de las ratificaciones en el articulo 16 ; pues mi deliberada voluntad es que la presente ratificacion sea tan valida y subsistente y produzca los mismos efectos que si hubiese sido hecha dentro del termino prefijado. Yo deseando al mismo tiempo evitar qualquiera duda ó ambigüedad que pueda ofrecer el contenido del articulo 8º. del referido tratado con motivo de la fecha que en el se señala como termino para la validacion de las concesiones de tierras en las Floridas, hechas por mi ó por las autoridades competentes en mi real nombre, a cuyo señalamiento de fecha se procedió en la positiva inteligencia de dejar anuladas por su tenor las tres concesiones de tierras hechas a favor del Duque de Alagon, Conde de Puñonrostro, y Dn. Pedro de Vargas ; tengo a bien declarar que las referidas tres concesiones han quedado y quedan enteramente anuladas è invalidadas ; sin que los tres individuos referidos, ni los que de estos tengan titulo ó causa, puedan aprovecharse de dichas concesiones en tiempo ni



under which explicit declaration the said 8th article is to be understood as ratified. In the faith of all which I have commanded to despatch these presents. Signed by my hand, sealed with my secret seal, and countersigned by the underwritten my Secretary of Despatch of State.

Given at Madrid, the twenty-fourth of October, one thousand eight hundred and twenty.

(Signed,) FERNANDO.

(Countersigned,)

*Evaristo Perez de Castro.*"

manera alguna : bajo cuya explicita declaracion se ha de entender ratificado el referido articulo 8º. En fé de todo lo cual mandé despachar la presente firmada de mi mano, sellada con mi sello secreto, y refrendada por el infrascripto mi Secretario del Despacho de Estado, Dada en Madrid a veinte y quatro de Octubre de mil ochocientos veinte.

[Sign.] FERNANDO.

[Refren.]

*Evaristo Perez de Castro.*"

And whereas the Senate of the United States did, on the nineteenth day of the present month, advise and consent to the ratification, on the part of these United States, of the said treaty, in the following words :

" IN SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES,

" *February 19th, 1821.*

" *Resolved, Two-thirds of the Senators present concurring therein, That the Senate having examined the Treaty of Amity, Settlement, and Limits, between the United States of America and his Catholic Majesty, made and concluded on the twenty-second of February, one thousand eight hundred and nineteen, and seen and considered the ratification thereof, made by his said Catholic Majesty on the thirty-fourth day of October, one thousand eight hundred and twenty, do consent to, and advise the President of the United States to ratify the same.*"

And whereas, in pursuance of the said advice and consent of the Senate of the United States, I have ratified and confirmed the said treaty, in the words following, viz :

Now, therefore, I, JAMES MONROE, President of the United States of America, having seen and considered the treaty above recited, together with the ratification of his Catholic Majesty thereof, do, in pursuance of the aforesaid advice and consent of the Senate of the United States, by these presents, accept, ratify and confirm the said treaty, and every clause and article thereof, as the same are herein before set forth.

In faith whereof, I have caused the seal of the United States of America to be hereto affixed.

Given under my hand, at the City of Washington, this twenty-second day of February, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty-one, and of the Independence of the said States the forty-fifth.

JAMES MONROE.

By the President :

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS,

Secretary of State.

And whereas the said ratifications, on the part of the United States, and of his Catholic Majesty, have been this day duly exchanged, at Washington, by JOHN QUINCY ADAMS, Secretary of State of the United States, and by General DON FRANCISCO DIONISIO VIVES, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of his Catholic Majesty : Now, therefore, to the end that the said treaty may be observed and performed with good faith, on the part of the United States, I have caused the premises to be made public; and I do hereby enjoin and require all persons bearing office, civil or military, within the United States, and all others, citizens or inhabitants thereof, or being within the same, faithfully to observe and fulfil the said treaty, and every clause and article thereof.

In testimony whereof, I have caused the seal of the United States to be affixed to these presents, and signed the same with my hand.

Done at the City of Washington, the twenty-second day of February, in the year of our Lord one  
[L. s.] thousand eight hundred and twenty-one, and of the Sovereignty and Independence of the United States the forty-fifth.

JAMES MONROE.

By the President :

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS, Secretary of State.

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